



## League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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# THE MINNESOTA VOTER

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## STATE PROGRAM 1961-1963

### CURRENT AGENDA *(State governmental issues chosen by the convention for concerted action.)*

- I. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will work for amendments to improve the constitution of the state of Minnesota.

Adoption of this item means: 1) the LWV recognizes that, for the present, the most feasible method of constitutional revision is by amendment; 2) it will be prepared to propose amendments to the legislature as well as to influence voter acceptance or rejection of those proposed by the legislature. A three-pronged approach is anticipated: study and consensus on amendments which will appear on the 1962 ballot; an overall look at the constitution to assess which articles need early revision; arrival at a more precise position on changes in a particular article. Should Governor Andersen appoint a committee to recommend amendments, its study might well affect our own. Hopefully, with guidance from the 1962 Council meeting, we will be ready to submit amendments to the 1963 legislature.

*Mrs. Albert Richter, Chairman*

- II. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of employment on merit and will study other problems of discrimination.

This item will include a concentration of concern on the issues of employment and housing, and an emphasis on the special problems of the Minnesota Indian which are governmental in nature and subject to governmental solutions.

*Mrs. David Kanatz, Chairman*

### CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES *(State governmental issues on which the LWV of Minnesota has a position and on which it may continue to act.)*

1. Ethics in government (conflict of interest and lobby regulation).
2. Election laws, party designation, and corrupt practices.
3. Home rule.
4. Constitutional revision by convention.

## Not Only That . . . But

Not only did the 38th biennial Convention of the LWV of Minnesota adopt a program; it socialized and exchanged ideas; it caucused; it took inspiration from the "great expectations" outlined by our state president; it heard John Bebout on the state of state governments; it licked its legislative wounds; it got first-hand reports of the 1961 national LWV Council meeting; it took care of by-laws, budget, and Board; and it did all this without holding a "special session."

## WHO CAME?

Only two Leagues were unrepresented; 53 local and four provisional Leagues sent 268 delegates and 112 observers, well over half of whom were experiencing their first convention. Twelve state Board members, one national Board member (our own Barb Stuhler), two visitors, and 23 Convention workers from the efficient and gracious hostess League—St. Louis Park—brought the total attendance to 418. It was a smooth-running operation from start to finish, thanks to all participants including our able staff—Grace Wilson and Roberta Williams.



## CLIMATE

Warm, not hot; refreshing breezes, but no wind; a bit of precipitation during the always-moving Hope Washburn Award presentation; rising and falling barometric pressure as voting progressed on program items; sunny throughout.

## BUDGET, PLEDGES, GIFTS

Only a slight adjustment had to be made in the proposed budget, the cuts falling in office operation, the accrual fund for new equipment, and the item for visual aids. Of the 11 Leagues who were unable to meet the suggested pledge for state and national services, three made special gifts to bring their contribution for this year close to the suggested sum (*White Bear*), equal to it (*Granite Falls*), or above (*St. Anthony*). *Owatonna* pledged the suggested amount and added a gift, *New Ulm* raised its pledge, and *several St. Paul members* made a direct gift. (After Convention *White Bear* sent another \$30 to close the gap; *New Ulm* added \$25.)

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

So much to tell, so much to evaluate. We can only try to skim the cream from the lobbyists' remarks. Mrs. George Seltzer, legislative chairman, briefly reviewed the fall workshops, the observers' program, and the publications—*Capitol Letter*, *How a Bill Becomes a Law*, *Lobby by Letter*. She concluded with two general observations: 1) there appears to be slight direct relationship between the League's educational activities and what happens to its program at the legislature; 2) the election of both senators and representatives genuinely committed to legislation the League believes important, is basic. If these observations are valid and if the League wants to realize its legislative goals, then it may need to consider ways in which its informed and able members, working as individuals within the political party of their choice, can do a better job.

(Interestingly, Representative Esther Fieldman brought out the same point in her luncheon address the next day.)

Ethics in Government chairman Mrs. Kenneth Sigford reported CONFLICT OF INTEREST the one ethics area where some legislation was achieved. Passed first in the House essentially in its original form, the bill was completely rewritten in the Senate; the House then concurred in the changes. The law contains little of what LWV members said they wanted. It does provide separate commissions for executive officers and legislators. Each agency head is directed to issue a code of public service ethics. In the legislature permanent ethics committees are to be established in each house to hear charges, hold hearings, issue advisory opinions; they may recommend disciplinary action to the appropriate house; if legal violations occur they may turn the information

over to the attorney general. The code of ethics for legislators is based on the canons of legal ethics of the Bar Association; it says a legislator *should* not (rather than *may* not) do such things as take another job which might impair his judgment as a legislator, or vote on a matter where there is a conflict between his public and private interest. The lack of any requirement for *disclosure* of personal interest is the most disappointing omission from the law.

"Some of you," said Mrs. Sigford, "may feel the emasculation is so complete that no law at all would have been preferable. But several legislators who worked hardest for it feel this small beginning may grow into something far more worthwhile if public interest and pressure are sustained."

The LOBBY REGULATION story is a short one. The original bill passed the House by a large vote. The Senate Civil Administration committee buried it with unkind words; in their opinion it was "unnecessary."

CORRUPT PRACTICES. Here Mrs. Sigford noted the LWV has been following a double track: the bill from the Governor's Committee on Ethics in Government and the one from the Interim Commission on Election Laws. League consensus revealed members were primarily concerned with getting full reporting of all money actually spent in elections, and with bringing the volunteer committee under closer control. The Governor's Committee bill was amended to do just that. What happened to it? Same refrain: passed by the House, killed by the Senate in committee—Elections this time. The Senate appears to take a very dim view of disclosing anything about money spent in elections or about the legislative process.

No final action on the corrupt practices bill from the Interim Commission had been taken at Convention time (nor was there subsequent action). It would have raised the allowable expenditure limit by five cents for each vote cast for a particular office in the last election, plus the same base allowance now provided.

One other election bill, drafted by Louise Kuderling and now law, implements Amendment No. 4 (passed with LWV help last fall). It EASES THE 30-DAY RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT. If a voter moves within his municipality just before an election, he votes in his old precinct; if he moves to a *new* municipality he gets a certificate of eligibility from his former resi-

dence which enables him to vote, for that election only, in his new precinct.

PARTY DESIGNATION. Summing up the remarks of Mrs. David Kanatz, chairman: In spite of your tremendous "lobby by letter" effort, the bill failed. The House Elections committee recommended it to pass. Before it reached the House floor, the Senate Elections and Reapportionment committee refused to send the companion bill out, even *without* recommendation. A move to pry it loose from that committee lost by a close vote on the Senate floor. Result: our legislators will be elected without party designation again in 1962.

Lobbyists for the LWV's Continuing Responsibilities were introduced by Mrs. W. R. Miller, CR chairman. Mrs. Byron Cochrane covered CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS. She noted that though the record may seem rather glum, many bills proposing amendments were introduced. The League had a vital concern in eight introduced in the Senate and 11 in the House. This means there is dissatisfaction with the present constitution, particularly the legislative article, and revision is not a dead issue.

Mrs. Harold Watson reported on the League's concern for protecting existing legislation dealing with employment on merit. She also noted passage of the fair housing bill (effective December 31, 1962) which includes changing the name of the Fair Employment Practices Commission to the State Commission Against Discrimination (SCAD). The age amendment to the FEP law failed to pass the Senate, though it did pass the House in regular session.

Mrs. Stanley Kane said for once *we* were the Status-Quoers on REAPPORTIONMENT, since the League's chief objective was to hold the line on the statute achieved in 1959 (the Bergerud bill). What's more, it was easy! Most legislators have come to accept the idea of reapportionment. Many are convinced they would fare far worse if they chanced another court suit by repeal or even delay. But she cautioned the League never again to let reapportionment become an unacceptable or merely an unfamiliar word in Minnesota. "It is very likely," she said, "that the Senate and the rural areas in general might prefer to work with the present constitution, carrying it out when either citizens or courts force them to, but always with the legislative prerogative of compromising with census figures and manipulating districts as the incumbent leaders see fit."

Reporting on HOME RULE, Mrs. Kane said we have to be patient yet another session, at least. Only the House passed the League-supported bill easing the method by which charter cities and villages could have amended their documents.

She spoke particularly of the need for metropolitan

## WANTED

Leaguers with a yen for study, to join a state resource committee. New agenda items I and II need committee research. Requirements: interest and willingness to work. Outstate residence especially desirable. Call or write . . .

Mrs. Albert Richter      *Item I:* Committee on  
5038 Gladstone      Constitutional  
Minneapolis 19, Minn.      Amendments  
TA 4-5546

Mrs. David Kanatz      *Item II:* Committee  
2901 O'Henry Road      on Problems of  
Minneapolis 12, Minn.      Discrimination  
JU 8-4709

area cooperation, brought to public attention by the Metropolitan Sanitary District bill (now dead). Political scientists say state legislatures are not facing this "great submerged continent" of problems. Would it be possible, she wondered, for a combination of metropolitan leagues to do some thinking along the lines of local sovereignty (home rule) vs. community cooperation?

"No," said Mrs. Seltzer in summary, "the legislature did not produce great things for the League in 1961. But the very existence of the League is a reminder that good government is important to pursue and in fact is being pursued by a group of sincere and dedicated women, issue by issue." If the League is less than pleased, it might examine the "why and how come." Must its members, as individuals, achieve greater *political* effectiveness first?

## PROGRAM DECISIONS

Thoughtful debate couched in well chosen words, sophisticated strategy, and a fine spirit of fair play marked the program discussion. Four Current Agenda items were voted consideration on the first afternoon: two recommended by the state Board (constitutional revision, and problems of discrimination) and two non-recommended items (a study of state taxes, and the Indian problem in Minnesota). The Convention agreed to discuss *all* of them before voting on *any* of them.

It is almost impossible to choose among the many good points made on the floor, but these few may give you a flavorful taste.

*Constitutional revision.* The constitution has been measurably improved, but before the League can go further it needs more exact positions on basic issues. Then

it could go to the legislature and say, "Gentlemen, this is what we think needs to be done to the constitution. This is what other states have done. We are willing to cooperate with you on these specific aspects; we trust you will be willing to cooperate with us in seeing that the necessary amendments get on the ballot, since this is the method you have chosen." Thus the League would be fulfilling not only its role but its *mission*: to improve the climate and the structure of government in Minnesota.

Opposition to the item was based largely on the conviction that many members are tired of the subject and it is not "exciting" enough to attract new members.

*Problems of discrimination.* Opposition was voiced by those who believe the subject is too "emotional" or is being taken care of adequately by other groups.

Those *for* the item said we have reached a critical stage in fashioning League program. We must recognize the great sweeping changes in our political and social scene. Governmental units have moved ahead to deal with social problems when they affect our general welfare. If the League is not tough-minded enough and clear-headed enough to tackle this admittedly tangled area, then we must question what its ultimate destiny will be. Structure of government is important, but it is possible to have a very elaborate structure housing a decadent society whose values are so misplaced as to allow destruction of the structure. We must demonstrate to the world that our form of government has meaning for all the people who live under it.

*Tax study.* Answering the argument that the item would be too "political," proponents said this might be its strength; Greta Garbo had big feet—she capitalized on them; Jimmy Durante had a big nose—everybody loved him for it. Both parties seem to be making taxes a political football. "Let them punt," said a delegate. "The League is ready to receive." Several stressed the general interest in this "bread and butter" question; League members ought to be knowledgeable about it. Hard to reach consensus? Sixteen of the 18 state Leagues working on such an item have done so, we were told.

*Indian problem.* In their Thursday evening caucus advocates of this item agreed it could be included in the "problems of discrimination" item and stated this wish on the floor on Friday.

*Voting.* A valiant campaign was waged for adoption of a one-item agenda—any item, but please, only *one*. For a little while it looked as though the Convention had done just that. *Constitutional revision* was adopted. *Problems of discrimination* lost 106 to 140. *Taxes* (needing a two-thirds majority because it was a nonrecommended item) lost, 131 for, 115 against. The *Indian problem* was decisively voted down as a separate item. Then came a move to reconsider the second item. It was tabled until a vote could be taken to reconsider the third item (taxes). The latter lost; the former was taken from

the table and passed. So the *problems of discrimination* item was again before the Convention, and this time it was adopted, 138 to 120. Much excitement!

*Continuing Responsibilities* were then adopted with dispatch, worded as they appear on page one.

## The Family Is Growing

### . . . and Prospering

Lusty new twins—*Albert Lea* with 50 members and *Fridley* with 52, were recognized as local Leagues by National one week after our State Convention. Freeborn county now has its first League and Anoka county its third.

Both have done an outstanding public relations job through voters service, distribution of publications, and taking LWV program to the community. One thousand copies of "Introducing Albert Lea" were presented to contributors, schools, and other key people. The first finance drive went way over the top. Mrs. John Arneson is Albert Lea's president; Mrs. R. Drew Miller, former state Board member and a past president of the Rochester League, was their adviser during the provisional period. Fridley's finance drive exceeded the goal, too. Their local survey will be off the press any day. President is Mrs. James Lehn; adviser, Mrs. Donald Guthrie of Mahtomedi, also a former state Board member.

*Willmar* became a new provisional League on May 9 when the state Board recognized it as such. This gives us a toe hold in Kandiyohi county. Willmar started with 43 paid members, \$5 dues, and a budget which includes \$125 for state and national services. Unit discussions began with "You Are the Government." All members received a copy prior to the meetings. Mrs. Robert Johnson is president; adviser is Mrs. John Lundquist of Granite Falls, a past president there.

This was a year of many successful finance drives, reflecting genuine service to the community and careful planning. We can list only the most outstanding: *Brooklyn Center*, *Hibbing*, *Maplewood*, *New Ulm*, *Owatonna*, *Rochester*, *St. Anthony*, and *St. Cloud*. New Ulm merits special mention. At Convention they increased their pledge from the suggested \$80 to \$100. The next week their drive was so successful that they sent an additional gift of \$25 to the state Board. All this with a membership of 24.

Special mention also should be made of the increase in member contributions in *Minneapolis*, due to actually "selling" finance to the individual member. For the past five years the finance committee has visited each unit to present the needs, and it is paying off—not only in more gifts but in more willingness to solicit. Without an all-out effort on both fronts it would be impossible for Minneapolis to meet its whopping pledge of \$5,650 for state and national services.

Mrs. O. J. Janski

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## AWARD WINNER, 1961



Mrs. SIGFORD

The LWV's loss is the League of Minnesota Municipalities' gain, but before letting her go (though we really haven't) she received tangible recognition for outstanding service to *our League*. The 1961 Hope Washburn Award went to Mrs. Kenneth Sigford of Roseville. Barbara Stuhler, last year's winner and this year's presenter, said "Name a League job and Jan

has done it," then ticked off an imposing list at both the local and state levels. The most recent, of course, is first vice president on the state Board and chairman of Ethics in Government. Jan also has been chairman for a Council and a Convention; she has organized area conferences; made countless speeches for the League; testified at the legislature.

To know all this is to know the scope of her League work. To know her qualities of leadership, the depth and intensity of her involvement, you have to know Jan. To know she is a good wife and mother you have to know her talented family of five. She likes camping, hiking, climbing mountains. "We might even go so far," said Barb, "as to call Jan an older All-American girl."

Academic background? Political science! She held the Ueland fellowship, named for the founder of the Minnesota LWV, and the only one for women graduate students in political science at the University of Minnesota. A League natural, she is also a natural for her new job, come August, as editor of *Minnesota Municipalities* and assistant to the director of the League of Minnesota Municipalities.

The fact that 14 others also were nominated for the Hope Washburn Award this year is evidence of the many, many outstanding women in the League. We can be nothing but grateful for this continuing embarrassment of riches.

### And if You Missed it in the Newspapers . . .

Barbara Stuhler is the first woman to be invited to attend the Wilton Park conference, sponsored by the British government, since its beginning in 1946. It will be held in Sussex July 16 to 29. The subject: "The Two Sides of the Atlantic Community: North America and Europe."

### Nuggets From John Bebout

Mr. Bebout, addressing the Convention on the future of state governments, said he had three stock speeches and would give us a condensed version of all of them—laments, orchids, and the "onward and upward" bit. (He

is director of the Temporary Commission on Revision and Simplification of the Constitution of New York State.) The "neglect" laments:

- States have failed to take initiative, particularly in helping urban areas solve their complex problems.
- They have not kept the organization, management, and procedures of state government in step with modern needs, nor do many make the required tax effort.

The "outmoded" laments:

- States are obsolete, not natural units; state lines cut through communities of interest.
- Constitutional weaknesses restrict and enfeeble states, encourage the trend toward Washington; legislatures are weighted on the rural side, so urban interests find it easier to get responses from Congress. (Even the U. S. Senate, in spite of area representation, is an "urban" body because in most states urban voters are in the majority and senators have to cater to them to get elected.)
- States devote less money to research and planning than federal and local government, or private enterprise.
- High caliber men are not attracted to, or do not stay in, state government; they tend to use it as a stepping stone.

The "threat to the nation" lament:

- "States rights" extremism is destroying the fabric of liberty.

Orchids:

- States still do provide a system for decentralization; they have helped to avoid the two extremes of bureaucratic centralization and excessive fragmentation.
- State-local functions and services are growing, as is personnel employed; expenditures have increased faster at the state-local level than at the federal.
- States do pioneer in such areas as higher education, public welfare, roads, conservation, land use, recreation, civil and human rights.
- They have, and will keep, possession of the tools for dealing with many domestic problems, especially those of the metropolitan area, since they have control over reorganization of local governments and legal power over land use.
- Largest orchid of all—they provide unparalleled opportunity to practice politics, high and low!

Onward and upward:

For better or for worse, states are here to stay. "Think how impossible it would be to reduce the number of stars in the flag," quipped Mr. Bebout. If we seek vitality rather than obsolescence we have to get over the ambivalence of decrying the power of the federal government and yet refusing to unleash the states to fill the vacuum which the people want filled. Preservation of the states will depend on whether or not we determine, for the

public good, to make the necessary effort. "The League of Women Voters," said Mr. Bebout, "is the only national organization which has really 'caught' this need."

\* \* \*

*A sage bit from Mrs. Anderson's presidential report to the Convention seems apropos here: "It has been said that The Cow will not answer a letter, nor will she heed a telegram; she might give a faint moo of appreciation at a television show, but the only way to get milk is to sit right down beside her and give her your undivided attention." Incidentally, if you haven't read the whole report, get a copy from a delegate. You'll never regret it!*

## Summer Reading on Foreign Policy

Emphasis areas:

1. U. S. farm surpluses and their use in developing countries.
2. Harmonizing trade relationships between regional blocks.
3. Liberalizing trade and making adjustments for injured industries.

Note: National LWV publications dealing with these areas will be out in September. The following will provide good background reading:

*A Proposal: Key to an Effective Farm Policy.* Rostow and Milikin.

*The Status of Economic Development.* W. W. Rostow. (Both available in paperback edition and library.)

*Trade, Aid, and the Farm Surplus.* O. B. Jesness. (Available FREE at Pamphlet Room, Coffey Hall, University of Minnesota St. Paul campus.)

*Farm Forum Speeches* (Can We Export the Surplus, et al) (Available FREE, Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce.

. . . Mrs. Elmer Isaksen, *Publications Chairman*

## League Tour of Europe

Will you be aboard? Half the plane space is already booked, and our travel adviser is in Europe now making definite arrangements for the piece de resistance of this tailor-made tour—meeting leading women in government in Britain, The Netherlands, Belgium, and France. He also has been asked to make it possible for us to talk with trade bloc representatives, hopefully from the Inner Six and the Outer Seven. (Or will the alignment be seven and six by then?)

Sightseeing won't be short-changed either. For a first-timer the itinerary reads like a book of dreams—a tour of London's East End, Oxford, the Shakespeare country; by boat to the Hook of Holland, to Amsterdam via The Hague, Volendam, the Isle of Marken, a Dutch cheese factory; Brussels; then Versailles and Paris.

The men (some couples are signed up) may be intrigued by the 46th International Motor Show in London. For the women, private showings at famous design houses—Dior, Jacques Fath, Chanel, Balenciaga—can be arranged in Paris. Some time "at leisure" is provided; you can take more if it suits you. If you want more details, write Mrs. O. H. Anderson, 161 Juniper, Mahtomedi 15, Minn.

Seasoned travelers tell us we are getting a bargain. Perhaps best of all is the assurance of built-in congeniality.

## From the President's Pen . . .

"Everything's coming up roses" might be my theme song as I look back on a most exciting Convention. The challenging program it chose changes our direction in a familiar field and expands an old position. This Convention proved again the quality of the League member in Minnesota. Your zest, your good nature, your evident joy in participation in the whole program process made it a pleasure to wield the gavel. I pay sincere tribute, also, to the performance of the state Board.

My rosy outlook for the future is further enhanced as I consider the leaders you have chosen to serve you—the local League presidents and Board members whom we have just met in three presidents' workshops, and the new state Board. We all feel keenly the honor you have done us, but the concomitant responsibilities also weigh heavily upon us.

However talented and knowledgeable and dedicated we might be, we are committed to doing what *you* wish us to do; for this we need a continuing flow of communication, of cooperation, of constructive criticism and support. Don't let our leadership be "a lonely kind." It is the steady assurance that we have your confidence, and know you well enough to truly speak for you, that will give us the inspiration and the courage to do the League job.

Here's to our rosy future.

*Mrs. O. H. Anderson*

(And here's a long-stemmed — unsought — American Beauty to our continuing president.)



PROPOSED STATE PROGRAM - 1961-1963

PROPOSED CURRENT AGENDA ITEM I

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision.

PROPOSED CURRENT AGENDA ITEM II

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and will study other problems of discrimination.

PROPOSED CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

These are positions on state issues to which the League of Women Voters of Minnesota has given sustained attention and on which it may continue to act.

1. Ethics in government (conflict of interest and lobby regulation)
2. Election laws, party designation and corrupt practices
3. Reapportionment by amendment
4. Home Rule

Explanation of Proposed Current Agenda

"The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision."

1. This item successfully meets all criteria for League program.
2. It falls under all the League principles which apply.
3. Since we have been concerned with constitutional shortcomings and working on the amendments, this is an opportune time for the total membership of the League of Women Voters to study the basic document. An understanding of the constitutional is fundamental to an understanding of all problems of state government.
4. If a new commission to study constitutional revision is appointed by the Governor or established by the legislature, we will find ourselves in the vanguard if we have this item on our current agenda and we would be in a better position to keep the citizens of Minnesota better informed on constitutional revision. Under this item the League could study many subjects sent in as program recommendations such as taxation, education, reorganization of government, home rule and others.

"The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and will study other problems of discrimination."

1. This item is recommended by the Board because of the number of local Leagues making suggestions in this area.
2. The item meets some of the criteria for League program, and a number of the principles.
3. Possible areas of study would be discrimination in employment or housing because of age, sex, marital status, or minority group membership.

#### Non Recommended Items

1. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will work to insure human and civil rights for all the people of Minnesota with particular reference to housing and employment.
2. A study of Minnesota's Indian citizen with emphasis on areas of welfare, education and economic opportunity.
3. Taxation -- for example: A study of the state tax structure, with emphasis on sources of revenue and more efficient methods of collecting, equalizing and distributing tax money.
4. Study of the Minnesota welfare program.
5. Ethics in government.
6. Consumer credit.
7. Traffic safety factors with regard to a) law enforcement; b) licensing of drivers; c) highway planning; d) citizen education.
8. Reorganization of state government.
9. Financing and control of public schools in Minnesota.
10. Juvenile problems and correctional system in Minnesota.
11. Study of Minnesota water with emphasis on pollution and conservation of supply.
12. Home rule for counties.
13. Election laws, with emphasis on a) requirements for voting, and b) registration procedure.
14. A study of the development of a greater metropolitan plan of government, in contrast to the development of individual suburbs with separate governmental units, as an answer to such problems as a) law enforcement and b) water usage.
15. States rights - What powers does state have as opposed to national government?
16. Reapportionment.
17. Party designation.
18. Civil Defense.
19. Aid to distressed areas.



## OPEN LETTER TO LEAGUE MEMBERS IN MINNESOTA

The state Board did a most thoughtful and analytical job before it made its recommendations for State Program for 1961-1963. We realize that we have a dual role in this situation, (1) to interpret the wishes of the members as evidenced in the first round of program suggestions (which came in from 32 local Leagues) and (2) to reflect our own concern for the welfare and continued health of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota as a whole. We are a statewide organization; our program should reflect this.

It is our belief that Item I, "The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision," does meet all League principles and criteria and would weld our membership into a cohesive group, knowledgeable in the provisions of our basic document, and able to make intelligent proposals for its revision. Since revision is being accomplished in each session, with little plan or design, our activities in this field are desperately needed.

The proposed Item II, "The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and will study other problems of discrimination," is our idea of a civil rights item which could more properly be on a state program than the wording suggested by the "Committee for the Promotion of a Civil Rights Item" and sent in by several Leagues. The state Board has serious reservations as to the item itself -- the duplication of the work of numerous other organizations, the emotional aspect of the whole subject, the question as to the statewide appeal. We did not presume to attempt to evaluate the amount of influence exerted by the work of the committee dedicated to promoting this item on our state program. We took the suggestion in the civil rights field at face value, as a sincere expression of our members' desire to be active in this area. We felt almost a moral obligation to reflect this in our proposed program. The flood of second round suggestions which we anticipate will tell us whether we were right or not.

The final choice, as always, is yours. It is you, the member, who at convention will decide the way we shall go. The state Board fervently hopes that you will exercise this responsibility with thought, with restraint, and with a deep concern for our future as an organization.

Mrs. O. H. Anderson  
President

The state Board is providing enough copies of the Proposed Program for each unit in your League. We hope this will help all your members to take part in this grass roots process. We ask your unit members to send their suggestions to the local League Board promptly, expecting then that your Board will review and summarize the results and send them to the state Board by April 11. If some of your units are unable to meet the local Board deadline, we encourage them to send their suggestions direct to the state office.

On the basis of membership discussion the local Board may:

1. Accept all or part of the program as proposed,
2. submit a revision of proposed item or items (this could be a revision of the wording but not a change in the intent),
3. submit a not recommended item (a new item may not be introduced).

During your discussion of the Proposed State Program we remind you to consider the workload involved in your proposal. In recommending your item, please include a definition of your suggestion as well as some indication of the scope of the item.

The state Board reviews this second round of suggestions and submits a Proposed Program to the State Convention.

#### C H E C K L I S T   F O R   A   P R O P E R   P R O G R A M

There are two measures of the suitability of proposed Program items. They are the list of criteria found in the Local League Handbook and the principles enumerated in the National Program. Every proposed item should be thoughtfully checked against these two measures.

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.



The criteria are:

- ✓ 1. Does it come within the Principles of the League of Women Voters?
- ( 2. Is it a governmental problem?
3. Is the problem one which state government can solve?
- ✓ 4. Is it the best time to take up the proposed item?
5. Is the problem basic or only a part of a larger problem?
6. What would be the source of public funds if they are necessary to carry the proposed item to successful conclusion?
7. Can the League offer a solution, or work toward a solution?
8. Will it give League members good experience in citizen action and provide a good combination of exploratory work and action?
- ✓ 9. Has the League sufficient knowledge, womanpower, and funds to carry out the proposal? When it is added to the local League's responsibility for local and national programs will the program load be too heavy?
10. Will the League duplicate unnecessarily the work of other organizations?  
Is there another organization better adapted to do the job?
11. Is this the area in which the League can make its most valuable contribution to the state?
12. What is the present attitude of the state toward the problem? If it is unpopular, does the League have the strength and know-how to handle it successfully?
13. Will all sections of the state be interested in the problem? Will it bring together diverse groups?
14. Is there likelihood of some tangible success?
15. Will it involve decisions of a professional or technical nature which the League is not equipped to make?

## 2nd Round of Program

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.  
062960CC

### LOCAL LEAGUES

\*Albert Lea \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Alexandria \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Anoka \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Arden Hills \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Austin \_\_\_\_\_  
Battle Lake \_\_\_\_\_  
Bemidji \_\_\_\_\_  
Bloomington \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Brainerd \_\_\_\_\_  
Brooklyn Center 94 unit \_\_\_\_\_  
Buffalo \_\_\_\_\_  
Cass Lake \_\_\_\_\_  
Columbia Heights \_\_\_\_\_  
Crystal \_\_\_\_\_  
Deephaven \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Duluth \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Edina \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Excelsior \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Falcon Heights \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Faribault \_\_\_\_\_  
Fergus Falls \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Fridley \_\_\_\_\_  
Golden Valley \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Granite Falls \_\_\_\_\_  
Hibbing \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Hopkins \_\_\_\_\_  
Jackson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mahtomedi \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Maplewood \_\_\_\_\_  
McLeod-Hutchinson \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Minneapolis \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Minnetonka Village \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Moorhead \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Mound \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ New Richland \_\_\_\_\_  
New Ulm \_\_\_\_\_  
North St. Paul \_\_\_\_\_  
Olivia \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Owatonna \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Red Wing \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Richfield \_\_\_\_\_  
Robbinsdale \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Rochester \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Roseville \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ St. Anthony \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ St. Cloud \_\_\_\_\_  
St. Croix Valley \_\_\_\_\_  
St. Louis Park \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ St. Paul \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Shoreview \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Silver Bay \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ South St. Paul \_\_\_\_\_  
Virginia \_\_\_\_\_  
Wayzata \_\_\_\_\_  
Wells \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ West. St. Paul \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ White Bear Lake \_\_\_\_\_  
Worthington \_\_\_\_\_



M  
E  
M  
O

TO: Vi, Rhea, Irene and Fran

FROM: Roberts for D.A.

SUBJECT 2nd Round of Program Making

*File*  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15th and WASHINGTON AVES. S.E.

MINNEAPOLIS 14, MINNESOTA

DATE 3/31/61

Would you please serve on the committee for the 2nd round of program suggestions.

These are due in the state office by April 11th.

Could you meet at 1:00 p.m. in the state office on April 12th?

April 4, 1960

APR 6 1961

Memo to the State Board:

We, of the Alexandria League of Women Voters, submit for the state item - County Home Rule, the study of county governments. We feel that there should be uniform regulations for all Minn. Counties. We are particularly interested because of our being the only League in the County & our membership does include women from the surrounding area.

Sincerely,

Jo Heggaard, Pres.  
Alexandria LWR



APR 11 1961

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ANOKA

SECOND ROUND OF PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS:

Comments of State Board proposed program, as discussed at Anoka board meeting - ten members present.

Unanimous opinion: Proposed program a crushing load for small leagues. One item current agenda should be limit. Instead of four continuing responsibilities, we count seven.

Current Agenda Items:

We suggest that one be chosen of the two.

We are interested in both - one is conservative, "traditional," the other is "progressive" and timely. Neither is as limited in scope as we like to see, however.

We found ourselves equally divided in making a choice of one over the other.

Without hesitation or qualification, we ask for a one item agenda. If the majority of leagues in our state are operating because they fulfill minimum standards for recognition in size and number of membership meetings, the state program should be something that can be handled with satisfaction and a sense of informed participation by these leagues.

For each agenda item at local, state, and national levels, for the continuing responsibilities at each level, for all the finance, voters service, membership, legislative action, etc. activities, for the Board itself, we have to form committees. When membership is limited, and only a percentage of the members are willing or able to participate beyond attending unit meetings, a select few find themselves serving in 5,6,7,8 different capacities. We find ourselves stretched so thin that we can't "come through" in all ways. It is disappointing and frustrating.

Leagues which operate at higher than minimum standards can always fill out their program with supplemental and/or additional work. But those leagues which are limited to minimum recognized standards of operation should plead, first and foremost, for a program that they can handle!

For the Anoka Board,

*Marian Fletcher*

Marian Fletcher, Pres.

APR 11 1961

To League of Women Voters State Board

From Arden Hills LWV

Second Round Proposed State Program '61-'63

By an extremely slim majority Arden Hills LWV Board accepts the proposed current agenda Item I.

Only 6% wish to accept Item II.

Much of our membership would like to have Minnesota water on the Agenda as Item II so that we might be in a position for action on the State Level.

There is wide interest in the not recommended item on Minnesota Indians.

*April 9, 1961*  
*Carolyn Tissot*  
*State Study Chmn.*



# League of Women Voters of Austin

Austin, Minnesota



April 10, 1961

APR 12 1961

League of Women Voters of Minnesota,  
University of Minnesota,  
15 & Washington Avenue S.E.  
Minneapolis 14, Minn.

Re: State Program

Mesdames:

I received reports from <sup>five</sup>~~four~~ of our 10 units, as follows:

- 1 - All items approved, plus 2, 3 and 10 of non-recommended items.
- <sup>4</sup>~~3~~ - Approve program but ask that C.A. Item II included special emphasis on Indian problem in Minnesota.

Very truly yours,

*Adele Hryniewiecki*

(Mrs. Edward) Adele Hryniewiecki

ah/s

Bainard's minutes  
say

" a letter from the  
Wh Bear Lake LVR about  
the Indian situation  
was read. It was

Decided that we  
would be interested  
in studying this  
situation.



To the State Item Chairman: This proposed study of Minnesota's Indians has not been recommended by the State Board. However, we would appreciate it if you would present this information to your membership. If they wish it, it can be recommended to the State Board by your League before April 11th and also supported by your delegates to the State Convention. In our view, this complex problem cannot be studied adequately under a general topic of human rights. For further information, please contact: Mrs. T.S. McClanahan (IV 4-5207)

11 West Shore Road

White Bear Lake 10, Minnesota.

*We now support*

Thank you,

White Bear Lake League Of Women Voters

*movement.*

*3/22/61*

APR 3 1961

Hubb  
Malin  
Weesman  
R Johnson  
Beisinger

Besse  
Murphy  
Maloney  
Hill

Anderson  
Brown  
Michaelis  
Lathis  
Cedeholm

---

Brammer

APR 11 1961

April 5, 1961

We discussed the proposed state program for 1961-63 at our unit meeting and unanimously agreed to recommend proposed current Agenda item I, and that F.E.P.C. should remain on the C.R. list along with all the proposed C.R.'s.

We felt we should be armed with knowledge of our constitution and it's amendments so the league can take action when the situation arises.

Even though some members of our group were very interested in proposed current agenda item II, we shared the feeling that a two item agenda would carry too heavy a workload.

Since F.E.P.C. has been studied, proposed current agenda item II would not present enough new material to be our single item. We also felt that proposed current agenda item II may lack statewide interest and be out of step in timing.

The C.R.'s, we felt, are all too lively to be dropped.

Mrs. LeRoy K. Erickson  
State Program Committee  
Unit I  
Brooklyn Center, Minn.



APR 11 1961

MRS. L. G. MURRAY

5950 Beard Avenue North

Minneapolis, Minnesota

April 10

Dear State Board,

Unit III, Brooklyn Center  
suggests adopting Proposed Current Agenda  
Item I as the total current agenda,  
and including F. & C. as a full C.P.

This was a unanimous and  
enthusiastic choice. Several felt  
that a Constitutional Convention  
was the better method for revision,  
but, remembering Mr. Backlund's advice,  
agreed that revision by amendment is  
a more realistic situation now.  
I am sure that you will find this  
a very good idea!

The motion to amend Item II and to  
re-refer the non-recommended Items 1 & 2,

was completely negative. The  
criticisms of the statistics in, fact, left  
little more to be said in connection  
with the statistics of the program  
except that the statistics in fact are  
not as good as they should be.  
to the state.

The Murray  
State Program Committee

APR 13 1961



# League of Women Voters of Bloomington

BLOOMINGTON 20, MINNESOTA

April 11, 1961

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

Re: State Current Agenda  
Second Round Suggestions

The Bloomington League reviewed the suggested program at the March unit meetings and indicated as follows:

- 66 - all but 1 voting at these meetings recommended  
Item No. 1 on Constitutional Revision
- 28 - would like both items as recommended.
- 18 - would prefer nonrecommended item on Taxation
- 5 - would prefer other nonrecommended items.

Of this number -

- 12 indicated they wanted only one study item - No. 1
- 1 indicated they wanted only one study item - No. 2

Sincerely,

*Rosemary Carnes*

Mrs. Jerry Carnes  
President



APR 18 1961

Report on Proposed State Program

Unit IV of the Brooklyn Center League.

Our unit was agreeable to the study of proposed Current Agenda Item #1 and also to the proposed Continuing Responsibilities that were suggested.

Comments made were as follows:

The State Constitution is always an interesting subject and the more we can learn about it the better off we'll be. If we can do something constructive to improve it, we will be doing a great service to the State as a whole.

Study of the Constitution would be interesting not only to us, but to the State as a whole, and what we learn we can pass on to the public.

Our Constitution is a ridiculous one which needs revision.

All of us could benefit from the study of the Constitution especially if some background material was included in the study.

There was feeling that we might antagonize other organizations if we were to tackle item #2.

Study of the Constitution is a basic thing and something that the League is geared to do.

Taxation would be an interesting subject, but would probably be "too hot" to handle.

FEPC could be "too far out"

There was general agreement that study of the Constitution could be the basis for some very stimulating and helpful unit meetings. Many felt that they were far too ignorant about the Constitutions and would appreciate any clarification.

The feeling about item #2 seemed to be that it was too broad an area to cover. Lack of interest was noticeable and not much enthusiasm was shown during its discussion.

All were interested in continuing study of the CRs, especially Ethics and PD.

G. Hayes

APR 25 1961

Report from Unit 5, League of Women  
Voters of Brooklyn Center, on the Proposed  
State Program 1961 - 1963:

- 6 members - felt we should adopt the  
Proposed Current Agenda Items I and II  
and Proposed Continuing Responsibilities  
as recommended by the State Board
- 3 members - felt we should adopt  
Current Agenda Item I, only, and the  
Proposed Continuing Responsibilities, with  
the addition of F&P C to the list of  
Continuing Responsibilities

Those wanting to limit the program to  
the Minnesota Constitution felt they wanted  
to give it considerable study and work,  
because of its basic importance. Those  
wanting to take both Proposed Items, liked  
the stimulation of several avenues of study.

Unit Chairman,  
Kileen Chiffard

MAY 1 1961  
Suggestions for State Program  
Cass Lake, League of Women Voters

Proposed Current Agenda Item I.

I Study of Constitution of State  
of Minnesota and propose  
specific amendments for needed  
revision.

II Study of taxes and tax  
structure

Proposed Continuing Responsibilities

1. Support of principles of Fair Employment  
Practices Act and problems of discrimination
2. Ethics in government
3. Election laws, party designation,  
corrupt practices.
4. Reapportionment by Amendment.
5. Home Rule.



recd 4/17/61

APR 14 1961

3967 Hayes N. E.  
Minneapolis 21, Minn.  
March 17, 1961

League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
15th & Washington Ave. S. E.  
Minneapolis 14, Minn.

Dear girls:

At our regular monthly meeting last night (March 16) we discussed the proposed state current agenda, and decided that we would very much like to see corrupt practices and money in elections continue on the current agenda for another two years. At this point it doesn't appear that the state legislature is going to do anything very dramatic in this department, and while by convention time they may have come up with something, judging by their past performance we aren't very excited by the possibility. At any rate, we would like the door kept open for this topic. It has generated more interest in our league than any other we have studied in some time.

We are in favor of the item on constitutional revision as framed in the proposed current agenda.

The FEPC item is certainly worthy of consideration, but we feel it would be a shame, having gotten such a good start on corrupt practices and money in elections, to let it drop now. We therefore suggest that corrupt practices etc., be kept for another two years, with FEPC first in line for the 1963 convention. We have a feeling that this last mentioned issue will not have dissolved itself by then.

Sincerely,

Betty Johnson  
(Mrs. David B. Johnson)  
President  
Columbia Heights LWV

APR 17 1961

April 10, 1961  
Deephaven League of Women  
Voters  
Deephaven, Minnesota.

Study Item for State Agenda

Traffic Safety Factors with Regard to -

1. Law Enforcement
2. Licensing of Drivers
3. Highway Planning
4. Citizen Education

This is the study program the members of the Board  
at the last Board Meeting voted on.

Mrs. David Bussey  
Route #3, Box 452  
Excelsior, Minn.

MAR 22 1961

League of Women Voters  
514 Lyceum Bldg.,  
Duluth, 2, Minn.  
March 21, 1961.

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

Dear Mrs. Anderson:

In its second round of consideration of the Proposed State Program for 1961-1963, the Board of the League of Women Voters of Duluth voted for a one item program for current study.

The item voted for is Item II on the Proposed State Program, that is, "The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and will study other problems of discrimination."

The vote of the Duluth board did not reflect the second round of proposals from the units of the Duluth League due to the timing of the State convention, April Unit meetings and Board meeting.

However, the Board did keep in mind the wishes of the majority of Duluth units in the first round of Platform suggestions which was for a civil rights item including a study of discrimination in housing.

The Duluth board wishes Constitutional Revision retained as a State Continuing Responsibility.

Sincerely,  
*Mary R. Pooley*  
(Mrs. John W. Pooley)  
Chairman, National C.R.'s,  
Program, State C.R.'s,  
& Lively Issues



APR 17 1961

2236 Livingston Avenue  
Duluth 3, Minnesota  
April 14, 1961

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

Dear Mrs. Anderson:

By unanimous vote, all members present at our unit meeting of April 12, 1961 expressed the desire that the threat of communism, its ideology and history, might be studied by all members of the League of Women Voters as a specific phase of Civil Defense. A perusal of the OCDM student manual "Personal Preparedness in the Nuclear Age" reveals an understanding of the communist party and its threat to individual freedoms and our democratic way of life as vital background material in understanding our need for Civil Defense, Defense Mobilization and, in fact, our entire national effort.

We feel there is a sad lack in such an understanding. We feel the League of Women Voters is equipped to make an intelligent study of this problem and to present the facts to the public. We feel this subject meets the criteria of the League of Women Voters and the principles which apply and should seriously be considered as a new state item and perhaps in the not too distant future as a national item.

Very truly yours,

*Elizabeth L. Hoch*  
Mrs. Robert H. Hoch  
Leader, Unit 12

1227 E. 3rd St.

Duluth 5, Minnesota

April 17, 1961

APR 18 1961  
Mrs. O. H. Anderson, President

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota

15th and Washington Ave., S.E.

Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Anderson:

Unit 3 of the Duluth League of Women Voters wants you and the State Board to know that we unanimously wish that you would select one item for the state study. We want that item to be the civil right study as it is presently worded.

We believe that LWV can best study this in a non-partisan manner. Also we feel that this is an item which should be the concern of intelligent women in our state.

Sincerely yours,  
(Miss) Eleanor Watts  
Unit Leader

APR 13 1961

To the State Board of League of Women Voters:

The Board of the Duluth League will not have time to review a second round of suggestions for State Program before the deadline date.

Unit No. 8 of the Duluth League suggests that just one item be on the State Program. We support Proposed Current Agenda Item II:

The continuing support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and a study of other problems of discrimination.

*O. G. Osterland*  
O. G. Osterland, Unit Leader  
Unit No. 8, Duluth League



APR 11 1961

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF EDINA

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

April 10, 1961

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

Dear Leaguers:

Edina Unit discussions of the Proposed State Program for 1961-63 revealed the approval of the Proposed Current Agenda Item #1, the Study of the Constitution of Minnesota, and Will propose specific amendments for needed revision, -- with the suggested possibilities in mind.

Only one unit was decidedly for Item #2, with special interest in fair employment and anti-discrimination. Two other units were wavering, tho one of these gave Item #1, but wanted special emphasis made regarding Traffic Safety, perhaps as a C.R. The other uncertain unit sounded like a tie, so this means I will have to discuss proper methods of asking the question, strange as it may seem. The total number in attendance didn't correspond with the total tally. With the unquestionable outcome of the other returns, I have not checked back on this one as yet.

The Proposed Continuing Responsibilities were also accepted as listed, with only a few suggestions of change, such as Indian problem, taxation, Minn. Welfare problem, and election laws in one unit, and the traffic safety suggestion in the other. There had been a great deal of concern earlier regarding education standards, teacher qualifications etc., at meetings I attended, and discussions with members, but none of this appeared on the reports. This flurry was also evident in traffic safety concern, but has tapered off. Of course, proposed action of the legislature in these areas has lightened the pressing concern, I am sure, as the whole Edina League has been following and attending sessions at the legislature more than ever this year.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. G. M. Stenson*

EDINA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Mrs. G. M. Stenson  
4811 Bywood West  
Edina, 24, Minn.

APR 7 1961

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF EXCELSIOR  
EXCELSIOR, MINNESOTA  
April 4, 1961

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

Memo regarding Proposed State Program, 1961-63:

Our League recommends replacing Item II with the following more specific study which we feel would have more state-wide interest and is particular to the state of Minnesota.

"A study of Minnesota's Indian citizen with emphasis on areas of welfare, education and economic opportunity."

It was also suggested that the Fair Employment Practices Act be placed on Continuing Responsibilities.

Mrs. Lee C. Hermann  
President, LWV Excelsior



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

MAR 30 1961

March 29, 1961

League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
Fifteenth and Washington S.E.  
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

Dear Mesdames:

Three units comprising the League of Women Voters of Falcon Heights voted unanimously to support Proposed Current Agenda Item I as suggested by the State Board. There were twenty four members present at the three unit meetings. One unit--seven people--selected only the one item. However eight members (one unit) placed Item II first on its preference list. The other unit expressed no preference between the two suggested topics.

In all Item II received seventeen votes. One person wanted the item reworded to include Indian problems specifically.

Very truly yours,

*Marguerite B. Simson*

Marguerite B. Simson  
State Item Chairman  
League of Women Voters of  
Falcon Heights

APR 10 1961

The Granite Falls League  
favors the proposed current agenda  
item I as it is written.

However we still feel that Indian  
problems deserve special attention.  
Therefore I have been directed to  
suggest this reading for item II:  
The LNV of Minn. will continue its  
support of the principles of the  
S E D C and will ~~also~~ study other  
problems of discrimination, especially  
the Indian in relation to the  
foregoing. (in this area,  
I mean)

The Indian, of course, is our  
only minority group and this is  
true of most of rural Minn. Also,  
the plight of the Indian has become  
a real problem in metropolitan areas  
as more of them are leaving reservations.

Mrs. Bruce Sandberg



APR 11 1961

Note

We understand the reasoning of the State Board in setting forth the study of the State constitution as a Current Agenda item. However, we as a small League

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn. March 1961

030861D-10¢

emphatically oppose its adoption on two grounds: that it is

#### PROPOSED STATE PROGRAM - 1961-1963

too unwieldy and complicated a topic for adequate study by our small group which meets monthly, and that it is a topic which would not interest potential new members. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision.

#### PROPOSED CURRENT AGENDA ITEM II

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and will study other problems of discrimination.

#### PROPOSED CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

These are positions on state issues to which the League of Women Voters of Minnesota has given sustained attention and on which it may continue to act.

1. Ethics in government (conflict of interest and lobby regulation)
2. Election laws, party designation and corrupt practices
3. Reapportionment by amendment

4. Home Rule

4. Const. Rev -

#### Explanation of Proposed Current Agenda

Post auditor, reapportionment.

"The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision."

1. This item successfully meets all criteria for League program.
2. It falls under all the League principles which apply.
3. Since we have been concerned with constitutional shortcomings and working on the amendments, this is an opportune time for the total membership of the League of Women Voters to study the basic document. An understanding of the constitutional is fundamental to an understanding of all problems of state government.
4. If a new commission to study constitutional revision is appointed by the Governor or established by the legislature, we will find ourselves in the vanguard if we have this item on our current agenda and we would be in a better position to keep the citizens of Minnesota better informed on constitutional revision. Under this item the League could study many subjects sent in as program recommendations such as taxation, education, reorganization of government, home rule and others.

The Hopkins League again proposes as State Current Agenda Item: A study of Minnesota's Indian citizen with emphasis on areas of welfare, education & economic opportunity.

"The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and will study other problems of discrimination."

1. This item is recommended by the Board because of the number of local Leagues making suggestions in this area.
2. The item meets some of the criteria for League program, and a number of the principles.
3. Possible areas of study would be discrimination in employment or housing because of age, sex, marital status, or minority group membership.

#### Non Recommended Items

1. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will work to insure human and civil rights for all the people of Minnesota with particular reference to housing and employment.
2. A study of Minnesota's Indian citizen with emphasis on areas of welfare, education and economic opportunity.
3. Taxation -- for example: A study of the state tax structure, with emphasis on sources of revenue and more efficient methods of collecting, equalizing and distributing tax money.
4. Study of the Minnesota welfare program.
5. Ethics in government.
6. Consumer credit.
7. Traffic safety factors with regard to a) law enforcement; b) licensing of drivers; c) highway planning; d) citizen education.
8. Reorganization of state government.
9. Financing and control of public schools in Minnesota.
10. Juvenile problems and correctional system in Minnesota.
11. Study of Minnesota water with emphasis on pollution and conservation of supply.
12. Home rule for counties.
13. Election laws, with emphasis on a) requirements for voting, and b) registration procedure.
14. A study of the development of a greater metropolitan plan of government, in contrast to the development of individual suburbs with separate governmental units, as an answer to such problems as a) law enforcement and b) water usage.
15. States rights - What powers does state have as opposed to national government?
16. Reapportionment.
17. Party designation.
18. Civil Defense.
19. Aid to distressed areas.

APR 7 1961

April 6 - 1961

Dear Mrs Anderson—

The League of Women Voters  
of Maplewood decided on these  
4 choices for the State Agenda —

1<sup>st</sup> - Constitutional Revision

2<sup>nd</sup> - F.E.P.C.

non  
recommended  
items { 3<sup>rd</sup> - Taxes

4<sup>th</sup> - Minnesota Indian - Emphasis on  
Welfare

I am sure the State Program  
will be most interesting. I have learned  
much this past year and certainly have  
found L.W.V. most informative. It gives a  
person a sense of belonging. Sincerely,  
Mrs Wm. DeLange (Mac)  
President Maplewood L.W.V.



April 5, 1961

Second Round State Program suggestions from the units

38 units reporting out of 44

Approve state program as suggested by the State Board - 15

APR 6 1961

Most interested in CA 2 - 7

Prefer the wording of the non-recommended item #1 for the Civil Rights item - 6

#1 Sounds like a restudy - 1

CA 1 Would like to emphasize taxation - 2

Would like to add constitutional revision as CR - 1

Comments from the units:

#28 - 2/3 of the unit didn't want to study constitutional revision

#30 - CA 1 is all right if they can have CA 2 also. There is not much interest in #1 however. 1/2 of the unit is opposed to P.D. being on as a CR.

#42 - So many other groups studying civil rights, the League could better study something else. They would like a more complete study of state Water Resources. They want FEPC kept as a C.R.

#26 - Leave CA 1 as a C.R. sufficient study has been made for action. Continue study of ethics and conflict of interest, there has not been enough study to put on as a C.R. C.R.'s are all right but would like to add P.D.

#21 - Would like substitute for CA 1 - LWV of Minneapolis will study constitution of the state of Minnesota and will continue to work for a Constitutional Convention.

#53 - Program is all right as listed but would like to add:  
1. Traffic safety - raising driver age - stiffer law enforcement  
2. Water resources study

#15 - Add to C.R.'s taxation

#48 - If it is going to be a 2 item agenda - Civil Rights item should be #1 - Constitution study should be limited to one or two areas.

#20 - Doesn't want CA 1 - Concentrate on #2. Drop constitution to the C.R.'s

#33 - Strongly in favor of CA 1

#8 - Felt CA 2 should be eliminated because it was not of interest statewide.

#31 - Tired of constitutional revision

State Item Committee summary of Second Round of program suggestions:

CA 1 - Change wording after comma to: for the purpose of supporting or proposing specific amendments. (So we can support amendments not proposed by the League.)

#1 is a large item - 2 CA's too large a work load but both are so important. We would like to limit CA 1 to governmental reorganizational problems of Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches.



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNEAPOLIS

84 South Tenth Street, Room 407, Minneapolis 3, Minnesota

Telephone: Atlantic 6319

CA 2 - The committee hoped would mean an updating of FEPC but will wait until more legislative action has been taken for further suggestions. (Our meeting was the night before the open occupancy hearing.)

The Minneapolis Board recommends:

Change CA 1 to conform to Committee suggestions: The LWV of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, for the purpose of supporting or preparing specific amendments.

CA 2 - OK as proposed.

Add: Constitutional Convention as CR 1

CR;s as proposed numbered 2, 3, 4 & 5.

Submitted by Mrs. Maynard Reynolds

# League of Women Voters

of Minnetonka Village

APR 11 1961

April 10, 1961

## Report on Proposed State Program.

### Minnetonka Village L.W.V. Board Consensus:

Want only one current agenda item and prefer Item I.

1. Provides good background material for understanding our state government.
2. allows for various areas of study such as welfare, taxation, states rights etc.

3. gives our membership a chance to be informed on ways to improve our constitution through revision.

4. Concerned that Item II might be too emotional topic.

Since other groups are interested in study and action on problems of discrimination, we could individually educate ourselves so we might be more ready to put this on a League agenda at a later date.

Since Minnetonka Village L.W.V. Board rejected Item II as a current agenda item, it is strongly recommended that continued support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act be retained as a Continuing Responsibility.

All Units are represented on the Board and the above consensus was reached with no dissenting minority. However, reports from individual units was a bit different and follows on next page.

# League of Women Voters

of Minnetonka Village

## Unit I

Want only one state item and preferred Item I.

## Unit II

Not carefully presented and understood they must choose between Item I and II. Almost equally divided on choice with slight majority favoring Item II.

## Unit III

Unanimous in wanting only Item I.

## Unit V

Could not meet dead line and will send in later report.

## Unit VII

Favored Item I only but definitely wanted principles of F.E.P. Act retained on Continuing Responsibilities.

## Unit VIII

Preferred only one item and majority favored Item I.

## Unit IX

Majority favored acceptance of both items but a minority preferred Item I if support of F.E.P. Act could be retained on Continuing Responsibilities.

All units reporting to retain C.R.'s as proposed with addition of support of F.E.P. Act.



APR 11 1961



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MOORHEAD

Moorhead, Minnesota

League of Women Voters  
Minneapolis 14, Minn

For the proposed state program 1961-1963

the Moorhead League would like to study  
"Proposed Current Agenda Item I": "The  
League of Women Voters of Minnesota will  
study the constitution of the state of  
Minnesota, and will propose specific  
amendments for needed revision."

Our feeling on the matter agrees  
completely with your explanation on the  
proposed current agenda.

Sincerely  
Mrs. Darwin C. Moeck  
Secy

APR 10 1961

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MOUND  
MOUND, MINNESOTA

April 7, 1961

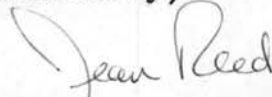
League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
15th & Washington S.E.  
Minneapolis 14, Minn.

re: Proposed State Program 1961 - 3

After reports from the discussion in both of our unit meetings, the Board of the League of Women Voters of Mound supports proposed current agenda item I:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jean Reed".

Mrs. Roger Reed  
President

APR 11 1961

New Richland, Minn.

April 6, 1961

LWV of Minnesota  
15th & Washington S. E.  
Minneapolis 14, Minn.

Re: 2nd Round of Program Suggestions

The New Richland LWV would like to propose Non Recommended item #3 as the '61-63 State current agenda.

Taxation -- for example: A study of the state tax structure with emphasis on sources of revenue and more efficient methods of collecting, equalizing and distributing tax money.

Our original proposal did not cover the entire field of taxation - we were more interested in tax structure with regard to State aid to education, however item #3 would cover this very thoroughly.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Hugh Williams, Pres.  
NRLWV

# League of Women Voters

OWATONNA, MINNESOTA

APR 10 1961

April 8, 1961

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

Dear Board Members,

On the basis of membership discussion, the Board of The League of Women Voters of Owatonna recommends the following item for state program:

Taxation-- A study of the state tax structure, with emphasis on sources of revenue and more efficient methods of collecting, equalizing and distributing tax money.

We submitted a tax item in the first round, but the above wording was submitted at that time by another League.

Our members have been in favor of a tax item on our state agenda for a number of years and at this time the support for such an item is stronger than ever. We are all quite aware of the arguments against such an item but we are not afraid of work. The fact that such an item was on the agenda a dozen years ago and no consensus was reached does not mean that it should not be studied again for in the light of present conditions our members will come to some consensus. The League of Women Voters of Missouri came to a consensus in a state tax item. Are we so different?

Our members feel that the League of Women Voters should study the "Number One" problem in state government - Taxation. Whereby we wouldn't have to create an interest through education. All Leagues seem to have a membership problem. We feel that the program item we are suggesting would be a satisfying one. With such an item our members would not drift away and through their stimulated interest would bring new members.

We also feel this is an item that would create real interest in all communities in the state. Everyone, as a tax payer, is interested in our state tax program and woefully misinformed. We would be performing a real service to our citizens just by providing information and building public opinion -- the first two items in a definition of League action. We are convinced, too, that the third item in this definition -- supporting (or opposing) legislation would evolve from our study. Consider what has happened with "withholding"!



League of Women Voters

OWATONNA, MINNESOTA

APR 18 1961

April 11, 1961

League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
15<sup>th</sup> + Washington S. E.  
Minneapolis 4, Minnesota

Could you supply me with  
the following information?

- 1) the exact procedure used in  
presenting an item for consideration  
at the State Convention.
- 2) the history of the tap item in  
the League program
  - a) when was it on the current agenda
  - b) what was the exact wording  
of the item.
  - c) how much study was  
done on it.
  - d) why was the item dropped.

We would be most grateful  
for the above requested information.

Yours truly,  
Mrs. Odin Skramstad  
756 East School  
Owatonna, Minnesota

# League of Women Voters

OWATONNA, MINNESOTA

-2-

This program item is a "natural" to take to the community. This is the kind of an item that would create real interest in the League and no doubt would result in increased support from our contributors.

We feel there is no doubt that this item meets all criteria and principles for a good program item.

Our members also felt that the study of taxation that would come under proposed Item #1 would not be sufficient to make a real contribution to our states tax program nor would it have sufficient appeal to satisfy our members. It was also difficult for our league to believe that Item #1 was a grass root item. No doubt it includes many items relating to constitutional revision, but we did not feel it was the intent of those who submitted these various items to include a complete study of our constitution.

It would be very difficult for our league to study a civil rights item because it does not directly affect our community. It would definitely jeopardize community support for our league. This item has many other organizations already working for it and they will no doubt be successful in securing some legislation.

Very truly yours,

*Mrs. Richard L. Porter*

Chairman: Mrs. Richard Porter

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15TH AND WASHINGTON AVENUES S.E.

MINNEAPOLIS 14, MINNESOTA

FEDERAL 8-8791

April 25, 1961

Mrs. Odin Skramstad  
756 East School  
Owatonna, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Skramstad,

Sorry to keep you waiting, but it took a little time to get some of our tax files back in the office, so we could answer your question.

The enclosed copies of convention procedure and rules should answer your questions on procedure. If not, write again.

Wish I had a ready made history of the tax item (as I am gradually assembling on other state items), but I haven't been able to find the time yet, to compile it, so instead I'll try to give you the answers you want.

We've had a tax item in some form from 1949-1957. However in spite of good source material, well-informed leadership the LWV has never been able to come to consensus, and thus take action. Two major stumbling blocks - sales tax and dedicated tax funds.

LCA, 1949 - The LWV will make an analysis of state revenue and expenditures in order to understand and support fiscal policies which provide for present and future needs of the state and promote a sound and expanding economy.

LCA - 1950 - The LWV will study the state tax structure and its effect on Minn. economy with a view to support a revision of dedicated funds.

LCA - 1951 - The LWV will study the relationship of revenue requirements and revenue sources in Minnesota.

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15TH AND WASHINGTON AVENUES S.E.

MINNEAPOLIS 14, MINNESOTA

FEDERAL 8-8791

CA, 1952 - none

CA, 1953 - The LNV of M. will work for the calling of a Constitutional Convention and will make recommendations as to what a new constitution should contain. (Emphasis voted to be on Taxes, Legislative Reorganization, Reapportionment.

CA, 1955 - LNV of M. will work for revision of the constitution of the state of Minnesota. To do this it will:

A.....

B.....

C. Study, for purpose of supporting, revision of constitutional provisions for:

1. An integrated and flexible tax article.
2. An article providing judicial reform...

The publications put out in the tax and finance fields:

Articulate Voter, Nov. 1949, popular discussion on economics

Discussion Outline for State Economic Item Study, 1949? 13pgs.

Discussion Outline on Dedicated Funds, Oct. '50, 13 pgs.

State Economic Study, 1951-52, 15 pages.

The State You're In, Chapter on finance,

The General Sales Tax, Dec. 1956, 4 pages, (not on program.

To quote from Miss Salisbury, who gave the official negative 1959 convention: "Let us be aware of the one over-riding reason for past failure. I think it is this: Taxation is a basically political issue. If there is a difference between the two major political parties - and I believe there is - it is basically one of money. Its expression is in terms of what shall be paid by government, and where the money is to come from. The phrase, "Where the money is to come from," means "taxes." It becomes very difficult to separate what may be a basic political allegiance from objective LNV study. This of course has contributed to the inability of Leagues to arrive at consensus....It also means that if we could arrive at consensus we would inevitably find ourselves in the camp of one party or the other. This in itself would not be a reason to avoid the issue....but the possibility does put one more barrier in the minds of members called upon to make the decision."

Hope this is some help - Grace Wilson



League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
STATE CONVENTION, May 20-21, 1959

Non-Recommended Item on TAXATION: Official Negative. (E. Salisbury)

If this Convention wants an item on taxation, it should have it.

Yet, if this Convention should come to a vote on this non-recommended item, I believe that in no other area, of those suggested by local Leagues, is it so important to have a predominant majority, that is, to have a true consensus, because in no other area appearing on our program in the past 15 or so years has it been so difficult to arrive at agreement.

We have had a tax item in some form on our agenda for eight years, from 1949 to 1957. Expert source material has been used; well-informed League leadership has been developed; some good, readable League papers and other materials have been produced. Yet, in spite of profound and lengthy study over a period of eight years, we have never been able to take action.

And why have we never been able to take action? Because we have never been able to reach consensus! We have tried and we have failed. We have stubbed our toes, we have stumbled, and we have fallen - over several major issues. The two largest stumbling blocks have been the sales tax and the question of dedicated tax funds.

I might point out here that the inability to reach consensus was evident all along the line, from the unit level, on up to the local board and in the state board. In no League group, of any real size or breadth of view, was it possible to agree. Hence, no action.

Now, maybe action would be closer to possible. Perhaps we could undertake new study and, finally, arrive at consensus. But let us be aware of the one over-riding reason for past failure. I think it is this:

Taxation is a basically political issue. If there is a difference between the two major political parties - and I believe there is - it is basically one of money. Its expression is in terms of what shall be paid for by government, and where the money is to come from. The phrase, "Where the money is to come from," means "taxes."

It becomes very difficult, even for Leaguers - who, by the very nature of the beast, are politically aware - to separate what may be a basic political allegiance from objective League study. This, of course, has contributed to the inability of Leaguers to arrive at consensus. It also means that, if we could arrive at consensus, we would inevitably find ourselves in the camp of one party or the other. This, in itself, would not be a reason to avoid the issue, but the possibility does put one more barrier in the minds of members, called upon to make the decision.

I repeat, if the Convention wants a tax item, it should vote a tax item. But let us bear in mind the essential political nature of the subject and the possible difficulty of arriving at consensus so that we may act.

APR 24 1961

*State*

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF THE UNITED STATES

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

April 20, 1961

Mrs. Odin Skramstad  
League of Women Voters of Owatonna  
756 East School  
Owatonna, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Skramstad:

Very many states have been working on tax items, but it seemed to me it would be best to be selective and suggest six which it might be most useful to contact.

Five of these - California, Illinois, New Jersey, Washington, and Wisconsin - have Current Agenda items on this. Massachusetts had a Current Agenda item for years but at present certain aspects upon which they have a position are Continuing Responsibilities. I include this state since they may be able to suggest some of the problems involved in a study of taxes.

A list of presidents and addresses is enclosed.

This is in haste as the national Board opens its meeting today.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Mabelle M. Long  
Organization Secretary

MML:etw

CC: Minnesota State LNV

Enc. - List of Presidents and addresses

C

O

P

Y

League of Women Voters of the U.S.  
1026 17th Street, N.W.  
Washington 6, D.C.

April 20, 1961

LIST OF SELECTED STATE LEAGUE PRESIDENTS AND ADDRESSES

Mrs. Lawrence Spear, President  
LWV of California  
141 B Harvard Avenue  
Claremont, California

Mrs. Harper Andrews, President  
LWV of Illinois  
Rm. 2104, 59 E. Madison St.  
Chicago 2, Illinois

Mrs. John K. deVries, President  
LWV of New Jersey  
460 Bloomfield Avenue  
Montclair, New Jersey

Mrs. Harold D. Pearson, President  
LWV of Washington  
7615 Sand Point Way  
Seattle 15, Washington

Mrs. Spencer Munson, President  
LWV of Wisconsin  
102 Roby Road  
Madison 5, Wisconsin

Mrs. Gregory Smith, President  
LWV of Massachusetts  
41 Mt. Vernon Street  
Boston 8, Massachusetts

RED WING  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
RED WING, MINNESOTA

APR 10 1961

461-16<sup>th</sup> St.  
April 7, 1961

League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
15<sup>th</sup> and Washington Ave. S.E.  
Minneapolis 14, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Wilson,

Following are Red Wing's second round suggestions for state program. The members of the Red Wing League are split by units in what they would like to study during the next two years. Therefore we are suggesting two items for current agenda:

1. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision.

(This item was very unappealing to the unit with newer members.)

2. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study Minnesota's Indian citizens with emphasis on areas of welfare, education and economic opportunity.

The Red Wing League rejected the state board's proposed item no. 2 because it seems to be an item that concerns the metropolitan area mainly rather than communities such as ours.

Yours very truly,  
Mrs. Gene Robinson  
President



APR 11 1961

Richfield, Minnesota  
April 9th, 1961

Report from Richfield League on 2nd Round of suggestions  
for proposed study on State level (1961-1962):

The proposed current agenda item I "studying the constitution  
with an eye to proposing specific amendments" received the  
support of all units. There was no dissention as to the in-  
clusion of proposed continuing responsibilities as read.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mrs. Stan Thompson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Mrs. Stan Thompson, State Item Chrmn.

APR 13 1961

# ROBBINSDALE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

ROBBINSDALE 22, MINNESOTA

April 11, 1961

TO: State Board of League of Women Voters of Minnesota

FROM: The Robbinsdale League of Women Voters

The Robbinsdale League of Women Voters wishes to express their strong favoritism to the State Item #1, "The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the Constitution of the State of Minnesota and will propose specific amendments for needed revision".

*Opal D. Kanta*  
*Secretary*

APR 10 1961



## ROCHESTER LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

1600 5th St., SW.  
Rochester, Minnesota  
April 9, 1961

The Rochester League of Women Voters feel that the State Current Agenda should contain one item. It is difficult to study carefully and thoroughly what we have now.

The Board and units reporting were divided evenly as to which recommended item should be chosen. Those voting for the first item felt it was the all important one--those against, felt it would be helpful for membership and public relations to have an item that would bring succesful results. Item II would be emotional, but perhaps something positive could be accomplished.

Two non-recommended items were discussed and urged by one Board member each. They were: non-recommended item 2 and 10.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our election of officers will be April 12, 1961. Mrs. George Spoo, 508 15 Ave., S. W., and Mrs. R. C. Roessler, 1016 8 Ave, S. W., will become president and vice-president respectively. Please mail all information to them.

*Mary Faucett*  
Mary Faucett (Mrs. R. L.)  
President

APR 10 1961

# League of Women Voters

of Roseville SAINT PAUL 13, MINNESOTA

April 8, 1961

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

Because of the time element we have not been able to consult all of our units on second round suggestions. The responses from the six units we did contact were varied. Two units wanted a one item agenda, and two units wanted more than one item. In addition, one unit wished to substitute a non-recommended item (taxes) for agenda item #2--Human Rights.

The Roseville board, however, was in agreement and recommends the following: (1) We prefer a one item agenda. We feel our time would be better spent concentrating and doing a good job in one area. (2) We prefer Constitutional Revision over the Human Rights item, because we think League will be better able to work in this area. (3) We do not wish to drop Constitutional Convention from our C.R.'s. We feel this is still the most adequate way of revising our constitution, and if the climate were right to work in this area we would not hesitate to put all of our energies in an all out effort to make it succeed.

Very truly yours,

*Mrs. D.C. Gabe*  
Mrs. D.C. Gabe  
State Item Chairman



MAR 23 1961

3404 Roosevelt St. N.E.  
Minneapolis 18, Minn.  
March 22, 1961

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

Dear Madam,

Subject: Proposed State Program 1961-63

The St. Anthony LWV held their annual meeting March 21, at which time the proposed state program was discussed. The majority of the women present expressed a strong interest in studying the Minnesota Indian problem. After discussion, the membership concluded that this topic should rightfully be included under Proposed Current Agenda Item II.

If Proposed Current Agenda Item II would include a study of discrimination against Minnesota Indians, the St. Anthony LWV will strongly support this item. Our League further felt that the wording of this item had considerably more appeal than the wording suggested by the "Committee for the Promotion of a Civil Rights Item".

Sincerely,

*Virginia Genaw*

Mrs. Leroy Genaw  
Local State Resource Chairman

APR 10 1961

To the Minn. Lst V. Board members concerning  
Proposed current agenda for 1961-1963.

The Shoreview Lst V of Minnesota recommends the proposed current agenda suggested by the State Board. However, a change in the wording of Item II has been suggested. To clarify, the proposed C.A. would read as follows:

Proposed C.A. Item I.

The Lst V of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision.

Proposed C.A. Item II.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and will study, with a view to action, other problems of discrimination.

Underlined words have been added to proposed current agenda Item II.

In addition to the above change in wording, we would like to make one suggestion. If at all possible, information on proposed current agenda should be received by the local leagues during the first week of March in order for adequate publicity to the membership.

Sincerely,

Shoreview Lst V

Joan E. Michaelson

State Program Chairman of  
Shoreview Lst V.

APR 10 1961

League of Women Voters

St. Cloud, Minnesota

April 6, 1961

Second Round Program suggestions from the St. Cloud League

For Current Agenda; The St. Cloud League of Women Voters desires a state current agenda of two items as proposed by the State Board in their first round program suggestions.

For Continuing Responsibility; the motion passed was "that FEPC and Constitutional Revision be also retained as continuing responsibilities if they are not adopted as current agenda items.

St. Paul -  
by Phone

approves

Sug. Program -

1st Item particularly  
good.



72 Edison Blvd.  
Silver Bay, Minnesota  
April 5, 1961

APR 6 1961

Memo to State Board  
Re.: Second round of State Program suggestions  
Dear Mrs. Wilson,

The local Board of the Silver Bay L.W.V. , on the basis of discussion by the local Units, would like to recommend the following:

Full acceptance of Proposed Current Agenda Item 1.

Submit a not-recommended item as our choice for Proposed Current Agenda Item 11:

A study of Consumer Credit--the concept of buy now-pay later.

Our entire membership, making themselves heard at Unit meetings were in almost 100% agreement that they would prefer studying the State Board's Proposal # 1.

We anticipate some lively discussion at Convention.

Sincerely yours,  
Mrs. Carl Hultstrom, Pres.  
*Ruby Hultstrom*  
Silver Bay L.of W.V.

APR 11 1961

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
of SOUTH ST. PAUL, MINN.



April 10, 1961

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

Dear Mrs. Anderson:

Replying to your request regarding proposed items for the State Agenda, the South Saint Paul League (after very much discussion, I might add) has decided they would like to continue study of an item concerning water. However, I noticed there is not one listed on the list, so therefore, the units would like to study the non recommended item Number 2. They felt it would and could be developed into a much more interesting and surely very worthwhile study and action item.

The groups did want me to state they are very interested in water study. I guess Vera gave us all a very good pep talk.

See you at the convention.

Sincerely,

*Vicki Ludwig*

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
of West St. Paul, Minn.

MAR 29 1961



March 27, 1961

The Board of the West St. Paul League of Women Voters wishes to recommend the following for the second round of program suggestions:

We concur with Item I as submitted by the State Board. We feel this would be a fine study for ~~the~~ Minnesota League of Women Voters. There is a great deal of interest in this item within our membership.

We would not like to see ~~Item~~ II placed on the agenda for these reasons:

1. We are opposed to a two item agenda, particularly when both items are new ~~and~~ in the study stage. We feel we can be better versed and thus more effective if we are able to ~~concentrate~~ on one item at a time.
2. In the first round we advised you of our opposition to a human rights or anti-discrimination item and our reasons still stand. Using our own unit discussions as an indication, emotions run deep here. While ~~de~~we do not wish to give the impression we run from controversy, we do feel that ~~this~~ particular controversial item could damage the League both internally and in the public eye. Our major ~~reason~~ for opposing this item is our concern for the ~~future~~ of the organization. We cannot urge you strongly ~~enough~~, and hope you will find it possible to drop Item II.

Mrs. Donald Mains, State CA chairman for the  
Board of the League of Women Voters, West St. Paul.



APR 10 1961

White Bear Lake League of Women Voters' Position on the Proposed  
State Adgenda.

The enclosed summary sheet is the combined unit voting on the proposed adgenda. The White Bear Lake Board has not had time to meet and confirm the majority stand, but I think it is safe to say that the State Board proposed item #1 as changed in wording and non-recommended item #2 on Indians would be the White Bear Lake Board's recommendations.

One unit of 20 members has not had a chance to discuss and vote on these suggestions: The actual vote of 54 people represents units with a combined membership of 75-80 members.

On proposed item #1, two areas of wording change were suggested. One is that "will propose specific amendments" implies a stand in favor of amendments which the League has never studied, had a consensus, nor taken a stand on. The other change would be to broaden the item, to allow the League to study all amendments on the ballot on which the State Board did not feel the League had a position. This would prevent the "no stand" which in recent years has meant defeat of an amendment. No matter how thoroughly we study the constitution, we cannot possibly have advanced stands on all amendments. There would be ample time in the 1½ years between the Legislative approval and its appearance on the ballot to study an amendment and arrive at a consensus.

On proposed item #2 a sampling of comments "The item is too ~~broad~~ broad; too vague; too big; too easy to bog down. The League's effectiveness was doubted. Too hard to be effective on housing." Shouldn't the League have a stand on sex discrimination in employment in view of Principle #10? In summing up the reaction to FEPC: 5 members wanted to put additions to FEPC on the current adgenda; 27 members want to keep FEPC as a CR (Of these 27, 17 favor study to keep abreast with changes.); 22 members want to drop FEPC. A comment on the League's position of keeping FEPC as a CR, "If a law should be passed changing the scope of the FEPC, the League would be in an anomalous position. It would be difficult to support just the employment enforcement aspect of a commission empowered to prevent discrimination in several fields."

The members feel that Indians could not be studied adequately under an expanded FEPC item. There is some interest in migratory worker problems, but it is felt that this also is a full study item and should be taken up after some progress has been made with Indians.

The White Bear Lake League is very enthusiastic about the Indian topic. ~~xx~~ Comments such as, "A disgrace to Minnesota - let's see the White Bear League really push this at the convention." "Chances of being effective are much greater than proposed item #2."

I believe I can speak for the White Bear Lake Board in saying that we sincerely urge the State Board to consider this topic thoroughly. I feel quite certain that ~~xx~~ our delegates to the State Convention intend to propose this item from the floor if it does not receive recommendation from the State Board.

Submitted by: Mrs. Ralph D. Ebbott  
4411 Otter Lake Road  
White Bear Lake 10, Minn.  
State Item Chairman.



# CONSENSUS ON THE PROPOSED STATE PROGRAM 1961-1963

League: White Bear Lake

Please return by April 6 to:  
Mrs. Ralph Ebbott  
4411 Otter Lake Road, WBL 10

Unit: 5 units

Number Voting: 54

Number Voting For

Proposed Item #1: "...will study the constitution of the state of Minn, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision!"

48

Changes in wording? *① and will consider specific amendments for needed revision, and when needed will through study and consensus arrive at a position on all amendments submitted to the voters. ② and will study & take a stand on all amendments put to the voters - 12*

21

Comments: If for this item what do you want to be the object of your study? a. The whole constitution for background:

48

b. Study so the L can lobby for specific amendments:

48

c. Study so the L could take stands on all amend, put to the voter:

48

d. Other:

Proposed Item #2: "...will continue its support of the principles of the FEP Act and will study other problems of discrimination."

5

Changes in wording? *none*

Comments: If for this item, what would you want studied?

a. Job discrimination due to age

5

b. " " " " XXX sex

5

c. " " " " marital status

5

d. Fair housing

5

e. Indian discriminations in the areas of welfare, education, economic opportunity. Other?

—

f. Migratory worker discrimination in the areas of housing, wages, education, child labor. Other?

—

g. Others?

—

## Non Recommended Items

#1 - human and civil rights with reference to housing and employment  
Changes in wording?

—

Comments?

*A study of Minnesota's Indian citizens with emphasis on areas of welfare, education and economic opportunity*

#2 - Indians with special reference to welfare, education & ec. develop.  
Changes in wording?

50

Comments?

Others? *Ethics in Government*

1

CRs - Follow the state recommendations?  
Changes? *add FEPC and keep abreast of proposed changes*  
*add FEPC and it something develops we have not studied, we can be asked to study it then and reach a consensus*

10

12

5

22

1

*Drop FEPC put Ethics in Govt. on the Current Agenda*

# State Program Suggestions

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.  
062960CC

## LOCAL LEAGUES

- \*Albert Lea \_\_\_\_\_
- Alexandria \_\_\_\_\_
- Anoka \_\_\_\_\_
- Arden Hills \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Austin \_\_\_\_\_
- Battle Lake \_\_\_\_\_
- Bemidji \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Bloomington \_\_\_\_\_
- Brainerd \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Brooklyn Center \_\_\_\_\_
- Buffalo \_\_\_\_\_
- Cass Lake \_\_\_\_\_
- Columbia Heights \_\_\_\_\_
- Crystal \_\_\_\_\_
- Deephaven \_\_\_\_\_
- Duluth \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Edina \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Excelsior \_\_\_\_\_
- Falcon Heights \_\_\_\_\_
- \*Faribault \_\_\_\_\_
- Fergus Falls \_\_\_\_\_
- \*Fridley \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Golden Valley \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Granite Falls \_\_\_\_\_
- Hibbing \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Hopkins \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Jackson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mahtomedi \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Maplewood \_\_\_\_\_
- McLeod-Hutchinson \_\_\_\_\_
- Minneapolis \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Minnetonka Village \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Moorhead \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Mound \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓New Richland \_\_\_\_\_
- New Ulm \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓North St. Paul \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Olivia \_\_\_\_\_
- Owatonna \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Red Wing \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Richfield \_\_\_\_\_
- Robbinsdale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rochester \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Roseville \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓St. Anthony \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓St. Cloud \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓St. Croix Valley \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓St. Louis Park \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓St. Paul \_\_\_\_\_
- Shoreview \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Silver Bay \_\_\_\_\_
- South St. Paul \_\_\_\_\_
- Virginia \_\_\_\_\_
- Wayzata \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓Wells \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓West. St. Paul \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓White Bear Lake \_\_\_\_\_
- Worthington \_\_\_\_\_

Master

page 1

PROPOSED STATE PROGRAM - 1961-1963

The first round of program making brought forth suggestions from 30 of 58 local Leagues. Remember we are committing ourselves to a program for two years. Let's choose it with care.

PROPOSED CURRENT AGENDA ITEM I

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision.

PROPOSED CURRENT AGENDA ITEM II

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and will study other problems of discrimination.

PROPOSED CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Ethics in government (conflict of interest and lobby registration),
2. Election laws, party designation and corrupt practices
3. Reapportionment by amendment *in the* *amendments - statute amendment*
4. Home Rule

*position on state issues*  
These are issues which the League of Women Voters of Minnesota has studied and upon which it has arrived at positions, and will continue to support.

*on which it may or may not*

Explanation of Proposed Current Agenda

"The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision."

1. This item successfully meets all criteria for League program.
2. *In falls under* *which apply*  
~~Except for the international relations item, it meets all the League principles.~~
3. Since we have been concerned with constitutional shortcomings and working on the Amendments, this is an opportune time for the total membership of the League of Women Voters to study the basic document.

*omit* *omit* *omit*  
**THE** An understanding of the constitution is fundamental to an understanding of all problems of state government. If a new commission to study constitutional revision is appointed by the Governor or established by the legislature, we will find ourselves in the vanguard if we have this item on our current agenda. *omit* *omit* *omit*  
~~Under this item the legal document itself would be studied and an analysis of the special problems dealt with by the constitution will be included.~~

*omit* *omit* *omit*  
add items possible to include under this item. The League could study many ~~problems~~ *suggested* sent in as program recommendations such as - *taxation* - *education* - *reorganization of gov* - *home rule* - *and others*

and we would be in a better position to keep  
the citizens of Minnesota better informed on  
Constitutional revision.



Master Copy p. 2  
"The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and will study other problems of discrimination."

1. This item is recommended by the Board because of the number of local Leagues making suggestions in this area.
2. The item meets <sup>some</sup> many of the criteria for League Program, and a number of the principles.
3. ~~The item as recommended follows directly the work the Minnesota League has already done in the field of fair employment practices.~~
4. ~~The League would be able to contribute a great deal in objectivity in the study and analysis of this problem.~~

Possible areas of study would be discrimination in employment or housing because of age, sex, marital status, or minority group membership. ~~The decision of which areas to include would be decided at convention.~~

#### Non Recommended Items

1. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will work to insure human and civil rights for all the people of Minnesota with particular reference to housing and employment.
2. A study of Minnesota's Indian citizen with emphasis on areas of welfare, education and economic opportunity.
3. Taxation -- for example: A study of the state tax structure, with emphasis on sources of revenue and more efficient methods of collecting, equalizing and distributing tax money.
4. Study of the Minnesota welfare program.
5. Ethics in Government.
6. Consumer credit.
7. Traffic safety factors with regard to a) law enforcement; b) licensing of drivers; c) highway planning; d) citizen education.
8. Reorganization of state government.
9. Financing and control of public schools in Minnesota.
10. Juvenile problems and correctional system in Minnesota.
11. Study of Minnesota water with emphasis on pollution and conservation of supply.
12. Home rule for counties.
13. Election laws, with emphasis on a) requirements for voting, and b) registration procedure.
14. A study of the development of a greater metropolitan plan of government, in contrast to the development of individual suburbs with separate governmental units, as an answer to such problems as a) law enforcement and b) water usage.
15. States rights - What powers does state have as opposed to national government?
16. Reapportionment.
17. Party designation.
18. Civil Defense.
19. Aid to distressed areas.

*colored sheet*  
*not*  
OPEN LETTER TO LEAGUE MEMBERS IN MINNESOTA

*p. 3*

The State Board did a most thoughtful and analytical job before it made its recommendations for State Program for 1961-1963. We realize that we have a dual role in this situation,

1) to interpret the wishes of the members as evidenced in the first round of program suggestions, *(which came in p 3 & 4)* and 2) to reflect our own concern for the welfare and continued health of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota as a whole. We are a statewide organization; our program should reflect this. ~~It is our belief that Item~~

It is our belief that Item I, "The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision," does meet all League principles and criteria and would weld our membership into a cohesive group, knowledgeable in the provisions of our basic document, and able to make intelligent proposals for its revision. Since revision is being accomplished in each session, with little plan or design, our activities in this field are desperately needed.

*and*

The proposed Item II, "~~The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision,~~" is our idea of a civil rights item which could more properly be on a state program than the wording suggested by the "Committee for the Promotion of a Civil Rights Item" and sent in by several Leagues. The State Board has serious reservations as to the item itself -- the duplication of the work of numerous other organizations, the emotional aspect of the whole subject, the question as to the statewide appeal. We did not presume to attempt to evaluate the amount of influence exerted by the work of the committee dedicated to promoting this item on our state program. We took the suggestion in the civil rights field at face value, as a sincere expression of our members' desire to be active in this area. We felt almost a moral obligation to reflect this in our proposed program. The flood of second round suggestions which we anticipate *will tell us whether*

*we will regret - or not.*

The final choice, as always, is yours. It is you, the member, who at convention will decide the way we shall go. The State Board *presently* hopes that you will exercise this responsibility with thought, with restraint, and with a deep concern for our future as a organization.

*The first*  
*Master p. 4*  
~~The most important enclosure in this President's Letter mailing is the Proposed State Program.~~ The state Board <sup>is</sup> ~~has~~ provided enough copies of the Proposed Program for each unit in your League. We hope this will help all your members to take part in this grass roots process. We <sup>ask your</sup> ~~have directed~~ unit members to send their suggestions to the local League Board promptly, expecting then that your Board will review and summarize the results and send them to the state Board by April 11. If some of your units are unable to meet the local Board deadline, we encourage them to send their suggestions direct to the state office.

On the basis of membership discussion the local Board may:

- 1) adopt all or a part of the program as proposed,
- 2) submit a revision of proposed item or items (this could be a revision of the wording but <sup>not</sup> a change in the intent),
- 3) submit a not recommended item (a new item may not be included; <sup>introduced</sup> however revisions ~~within the intent of the first round of suggestions of program suggestions are acceptable~~).

During your discussion of the Proposed State Program we remind you to consider the workload involved in your proposal. *In recommending your items, please include a definition of your suggestions as well as some indication of the scope of the item.* ~~In reference to the items recommended by your League your indications of the scope of work or definition of your suggestions will be helpful to the state Board.~~

The state Board reviews this second round of suggestions and submits a Proposed Program to the State Convention.

(Memo to Board: It is suggested this sheet be preceded by Proposed Program, and be followed by Check List on Criteria and Principles.)

FEB 8 1961

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF AUSTIN

Austin, Minnesota

February 6, 1961

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

Dear Mrs. Anderson:

Following are the suggestions from the Austin League for state current agenda:

- < 1. Welfare - greater efficiency in assistance programs.
- < 2. Civil Defense - necessity for education and legislation.
- < 3. Education - what should the state's financial responsibility be for higher education and how should facilities be organized geographically.
- < 4. Ore Resources - necessity for economic aid to the ore industry area.
- < 5. Consumer Credit - full disclosure law as to interest rates and carrying charges.
- < 6. Joint ticket for governor and lieutenant governor.
- < 7. Human Rights - stressing housing and Indian affairs.
- < 8. Minnesota Taxes - should taxes be increased on the local level or should there be increased state aid.
- < 9. State Hospital Program - facilities and administration.
- < 10. Juvenile Delinquency - correction facilities (housing and treatment).
- < 11. Reorganization of state government to promote efficiency and eliminate overlapping of function.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Edward Hryniewiecki, President

*Mrs. Fred Kraft*

Mrs. Fred Kraft  
Secretary



Continuing Responsibilities

Please list CR's and check those on which you expect to be active

3/14/61

Battle Lake

Suggested State Agenda items

- <1. Study on state Indian problems
- <2. State Tax structure

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF BLOOMINGTON

FEB 13 1961



BLOOMINGTON 20, MINNESOTA

February 9, 1961

TO: League of Women Voters of Minnesota

SUBJECT: State Program

The Bloomington League makes the following report on state program making:

< In four of our ten units, a majority of members were most interested in a study of human rights, while the other two subjects in which there was the most interest were taxation and education. These two shared equally in the number of units expressing a desire for these as their first choice for study.

< A minority of members also voted for a water study, reorganization of state government and home rule for counties.

Sincerely,

*Rosemary Carnes*  
Mrs. Jerry Carnes  
President

FEB 14 1961

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROOKLYN CENTER

Brooklyn Center, Minn.

2/9/61

To: The State Board of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
From: The Brooklyn Center League of Women Voters  
Re: Proposed State Program

The proposed State Program by the Brooklyn Center  
League of Women Voters would be - Human Rights (three units)  
or Welfare (two units) and the continuation of Ethics in Government.  
We felt that this would give us a clearly defined two  
pointed agenda item. We further felt that Minnesota Election  
Law and Party Designation could and should be put on  
the list of Continuing Responsibilities.

Dee Nelson, President

FEB 24 1961

MR. & MRS. JOHN W. POOLEY  
2914 GREYSOLON ROAD  
DULUTH, MINNESOTA

Tuesday  
February 21, 1961.

Dear Mrs. Anderson:

The Board of the League of Women Voters of Duluth agreed to send as a Duluth recommendation for a state current agenda item, two items mentioned most frequently in the Unit discussions. They are:

- < 1- A Study of Human Rights, including such topics as Housing Discrimination and the Indian Problem.
- < 2-A limited study of Taxation such as:
  - a-Sales Tax
  - b-Personal Property Tax on Business
  - c-Equilization of Taxes

The units expressed some degree of interest in the following items:

- 1-Water
  - a-Pollution
  - b-As pertaining to state parks and recreation.
- 2-Uniform state-wide registration of voters.
- 3-Civil Defense.
- 4-Reorganization of state government.
- 5-Consumer Credit (questions were raised as to whether this was within scope of League study)
- 6-Welfare



- 7-Education(one unit interested in a study of  
State Board of Education),
- 8-Juvenile Delinquency.
- 9-Retirement plans.

Sincerely,

*Mary R. Pooley*

Mrs. John W. Pooley  
National CR's,  
Program, and  
Lively Issues Chairman

FEB 13 1961

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF EDINA

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

Feb. 11, 1961

The first round of State Suggestions followed quite closely the news stories most prominent at this time. By far the most important topic of concern was the flurry of accidents on our highways involving young people, with the resultant debate on age limits for licensing, qualifications, etc. Many associated the problem of Juvenile Delinquency with youthful drivers. However, many included the question of tests for all ages, the drinking driver, and enforcement of penalties and laws.

The second point of concentration seemed to connect Reorganization of State Government, its costs under our system with our high taxation, with a resultant interest in the study of taxation in order to find out where the money is going, and where there could be some saving made.

In brief, the list is as follows:

- < 1. ~~Driving Laws, Violations, and Penalties~~
- < 2. Reorganization of State Govt. and Taxation
- < 3. Consumer Credit
- < 4. Human Rights - Housing and Indian Problems
- < 5. Education
- < 6. Welfare

In view of the fact that there is quite a lot of Legislative action on #1 taking place, with likely action, the next four topics will probably remain on our list. Education followed quite closely to human rights. Some of the units mentioning Human Rights commented only on Indian Problems so this may indicate more over-all concern for the study of Education.

Jane Stenson - Edina LWV

*Mrs. Jane Stenson*

FEB 9 1961

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF EXCELSIOR  
EXCELSIOR, MINNESOTA

2/8/61

Re: State Program Suggestions

Excelsior League members expressed keen interest in two items that have been suggested by individuals <sup>and</sup> Leagues around the state. Though many feel that one new <sup>study</sup> item is sufficient the interest was so divided that I feel both should at least be recommended items for the State Board to consider more thoroughly.

The following wording was approved:



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF EXCELSIOR  
EXCELSIOR, MINNESOTA

"The League will work to  
insure <sup>the</sup> human & civil rights  
for all the people of <sup>the</sup> Minn.  
with particular reference to  
housing <sup>and</sup> employment."

"A study of the Minn. Indian  
citizen with emphasis on  
areas of welfare, education <sup>and</sup>  
economic opportunity."

Jo Hermann,

Pres. Excelsior L.W.V.





League of Women Voters  
of Golden Valley

FEB 9 1961

February 8, 1961.

The League of Women Voters of Golden Valley  
submits the following suggestions for the  
State Agenda Item and Continuing Responsi-  
bility:

Agenda Item

A study of the state tax structure, with  
emphasis on sources of revenue and more  
efficient methods of collecting, equalizing,  
and distributing tax money.

Continuing Responsibility

Party Designation

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia A. Ryan, Secretary

JAN 27 1961

As a state program suggestion, the Granite Falls League of Women Voters would like to propose "a study of Minnesota's Indian citizen, with emphasis on the areas of welfare, education and economic opportunity."

Mrs. Bruce Lundberg

Phoned in on Febr. 13

FEB 14 1961

STATE PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS:

11  
The Hopkins League of Women Voters wishes to propose a study of Minnesota's Indian citizen, with emphasis on the areas of welfare, education and economic opportunity. " (suggested by 20 members)

"  
The League will work to insure human and civil rights for all the people of Minnesota, with particular reference to housing and employment. =  
(suggested by 2 members)

Mrs. M. K. Webster  
President  
Hopkins League of Women Voters

The Jackson League of Women Voters  
would like an item on Human Rights  
on our State Agenda.

JAN 19 1961



FEB 13 1961

February 10, 1961

Attention State Board:

A concensus of the members of the Maplewood League of Women Voters is as follows: "The Maplewood League of Women Voters wishes to propose a study of Minnesota's Indian citizen, with emphasis on the areas of welfare, education and economic opportunity."

*Mrs. John Ullrich*  
Mrs. John Ullrich, Secretary

Maplewood League of Women Voters

FEB 14 1961  
Feb. 5, 1961

Minneapolis LWV to Minnesota LWV  
State Program Suggestions - 1st Round

The Minneapolis League of Women Voters Board recommends the following state program:

Current Agenda:

The LWV will work to insure human and civil rights for all the people of Minnesota with particular reference to housing and employment.

Continuing Responsibilities:

1. Improvements in Minnesota election laws
2. Improvements in ethics in government for Minnesota
3. Party Designation
4. Constitutional Revision: constitutional convention, periodic submission to the people on the question of calling a convention, workable amending process, clearly fixed executive responsibilities, adequate length of legislative session, post auditor
5. Reapportionment by statute or amendment
6. Home rule
7. FEPC

Comments:

1. 33 units out of 44 (2 of these are new) reported. This involved 430 League members.
2. In 19 units a substantial majority desired the civil rights item as worded above. A simple majority in 2 other units desired it and, in addition, 2 other units asked for a similar but less inclusive item.
3. Other items receiving a number of votes for Current Agenda were:
  - Election laws - 7 units (substantial majority)
  - Ethics in government - 12 units (S.M.)
  - Party Designation - 3 (S.M.)
  - Taxes (with varying wording) - 5 units (S.M.)
  - & emphasis
  - Traffic and licensing - 5
  - Consumer credit - 3
  - Water and/or natural resources - 3
  - Statewide assessment study - 2
  - Welfare - 3
4. The board agreed with the Minneapolis state resource committee that the large vote for keeping ethics and election laws on the CA reflected membership indecision as to the fate of legislation in these fields rather than a desire for more League study and research and, additionally, ignorance as to whether we have a League stand. (Unfortunately, Minneapolis LWV did not have time for ethics consensus and the topic was studied only 1 month last year in the units). A larger number of units voted to have them both as CRs, nevertheless.
5. Despite unit complaints during the past 2 years over the heavy program load, only 1 unit specifically asked for a 1-item agenda.
6. Heavy majorities were received for keeping constitutional revision with its subheadings as a CR. Despite the fact that the members and board kept reapportionment by statute and home rule on the CRs, the board, at least, feels that unless developments during the session threaten these items for next session, these

~~these~~ items can be dropped. FEPC was retained as a CR, but surely should be dropped if the civil rights item goes on CA. More members voted to drop it than keep it as a CR, but this may reflect their desire to make civil rights the CA item rather than a consideration of what to do with it if there is no civil rights on current agenda.

Submitted by Phyllis Richter

League of Women Voters

FEB 9 1961

of Minnetonka Village

*Submission of Topic for State Item*



# League of Women Voters

of Minnetonka Village

February 5, 1961

Because ground water supply is not confined to any political boundaries and surface water supply is continuous throughout the state, water problems are a concern of all the people of Minnesota. Although water problems are national in scope much legislation must be initiated on a state level.

The Board of the League of Women Voters of Minnetonka Village proposes a study of Minnesota Water with emphasis on pollution and conservation of supply.

We feel that further consideration should be given to the following:

1. Setting up permissible levels of water pollution; "how much pollution is pollution," by state board of health.
2. Initiation of geological studies by state in areas where demands for water are heavy.

# League of Women Voters

of Minnetonka Village

3. Establishment of avenues of arbitration to resolve conflict of interest between various uses of water i.e. water supply and sewage disposal
4. Closer study of work being done by U.S. Public Health Service at the Robert Taft Center in Cincinnati, Ohio.
5. Setting standards by state for any package sewage disposal system
6. From geological survey a determination should be made as to which communities shall have access to ground water and to surface water
7. Education of local governments about procedures which they could employ to provide municipal services i.e. providing laterals for water and sewer when gas lines go in thus eliminating perpetual road repair.

# League of Women Voters

of Minnetonka Village

8. Attempt to get water withdrawal and recharge rates from ground by a more comprehensive weather station system.
9. Set up standards for well construction
10. Work for more compact and economical development in areas of new housing.
11. Coordination of state agencies concerned to pinpoint responsibility and authority to water management.



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MOORHEAD

Moorhead, Minnesota

FEB 9 1961

February 7, 1961

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

Re: Suggestions for Proposed Current Agenda for State from  
Moorhead League of Women Voters

1. A Study of Human Rights of minority groups including housing, education and job opportunities.
2. Financing and Control of Public Schools in Minnesota.
3. Welfare
4. Study of Indian problems
5. Constitutional Convention and Revision
6. Revision of tax structure
7. Study of our juvenile problems and correctional system in Minnesota
8. Diversification of Industries in Minnesota in relation to industry and tax reform.
9. Minnesota's state institutions-- their needs and problems.

We sincerely hope the state item will be limited to one subject for the coming two years will be a one item study.

Sincerely yours,

*Bernice Arett*  
Bernice Arett  
1st V. Pres.



FEB 9 1961

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MOUND  
MOUND, MINNESOTA

February 8, 1961

League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
15th & Washington Ave. S.E.  
Minneapolis 14, Minn.

re: State Program suggestions

Dear Mrs. Anderson,

The Board of the League of Women Voters of Mound proposes the following item for State Program for 1961-63:

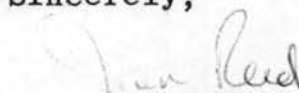
Taxes: A reevaluation of the tax structure in Minnesota - based on real estate and property taxes - and its effect on state and local economic development and government financing.

Two other items were proposed and considered by our members. One was the Civil Rights item. The other was: Driving Laws: A study of the traffic problem, with a view to clarifying and tightening traffic laws in Minnesota.

Our Board felt that the tax item had the most support from our members, and that this one item would be enough to "keep us busy" along with the Continuing Responsibilities which we probably will still have.

The Board made no specific recommendations about Continuing Responsibilities.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Roger Reed, President

FEB 13 1961

February 9, 1961

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

Re: State Program Suggestions

The New Richland League of Women Voters would like to suggest  
a study of the property tax and assessment system; with  
emphasis on evaluation of property for State aid to  
education. "

*Mrs. Hugh Williams*  
Mrs. Hugh Williams. Pres.

FEB 7

February 4, 1961

The New Uln League of Women Voters at this time will not send in suggestions for the state current agenda. We do plan to send in second round suggestions.

*Arline Patton*

Arline Patton  
Secretary

FEB 7 1961

State program suggestions -- North St. Paul League of Women Voters

1. The LWV of Minnesota will study the possible need for governmental machinery to coordinate or revise the state's administrative departments with special emphasis on the department of welfare.
2. The LWV of Minnesota will work to insure human and civil rights for all the people of Minnesota, with particular reference to housing and employment.
3. The LWV of Minnesota will undertake a study of the financing and directing of public education at all levels with special reference to state responsibility thereto.

Continuing Responsibilities -

Election laws  
Ethics  
Party Designation  
Reapportionment  
Home Rule  
Constitutional Convention

Delete FEPC



# *League of Women Voters*

FEB 13 1961

OWATONNA, MINNESOTA

February 9, 1961

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

Re: State Program Suggestions

The Owatonna League of Women Voter and its board  
submit the following program suggestions:

1st Choice:

< Study of taxation with emphasis on releasing dedicated  
funds and new and more lucrative methods of investing  
state money.

2nd Choice:

< A study of Minnesota's Indian citizen, with emphasis  
on the areas of welfare, education and economic  
opportunity.

3rd Choice:

— Welfare

Sincerely,

Chairman: Mrs. Richard B. Porter  
373 South Street  
Owatonna, Minnesota

P.S. We may add to our By-Laws increasing our dues to  
\$5.00. If it is decided to make this change, we will  
write to you by February 15th.

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

FEB 8 1961

February 6, 1961

The members of the Red Wing League of Women Voters are interested in the following items for state program suggestions:

- < 1. Civil Rights with emphasis on the Indian Problem
- 2. Welfare
- 3. Education - government subsidizing higher education.
- 4. Reorganization of Government (unicameral legislature)  
(governor and lieutenant governor of the same party)
- 5. Consumer credit
- 6. Civil Defense
- 7. Government organization in the Corrections field

Mrs. Gene Robinson, President  
Red Wing League of Women Voters

from:

JAN 10 1960

Richfield League of Women Voters  
Richfield, Minnesota

1st Round Suggestions on Proposed State  
Study Items:

There was much discussion of the following topics, but no clear cut trends. Support was almost unanimous to continue our perusal of Ethics in Government and most units felt the State CRs should be retained. The rest of these suggestions were given almost equal emphasis:

3) State Civil Rights Item:  
    < Human Rights  
    < Racial Discrimination  
        etc  
    < Housing Provisions  
        + Inequities

4) Tax Structures in Minn:  
    Tax Structure in Minn -  
        how formed  
    How are Dept. Allocations  
        Arrived at -  
    Need to standardize fiscal  
        procedure  
    Consumer Credit

5) Juvenile Delinquency -  
    Welfare Laws  
    Rising Age of Driver's  
        License



FEB 8 1961

1165 Plummer Circle  
Rochester, Minnesota  
February 7, 1961

To: State Board, Minnesota League of Women Voters

Re: Suggestion for state program item.

I am in favor of the state board adopting for its program item next year "the study of housing discrimination against minority groups in the state of Minnesota, with a view to support of legislative action which will alleviate such discrimination."

*Mrs. J. W. Kirklin*

Mrs. J. W. Kirklin  
Board member

Rochester League of Women Voters

# League of Women Voters

of Roseville

SAINT PAUL 13, MINNESOTA

FEB 1 1961

January 30, 1961

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

The Roseville Leagues' first round suggestions for state agenda items are;

- < (1) A study of state revenue and expenditures, potential sources of revenue and new tax proposals.
- < (2) A study of discriminatory practices against minority groups.
- < (3) A study of public employees' retirement funds in Minnesota.

The board is recommending three items since the membership was fairly well split on their main points of interest. We hope this does not leave you with the impression that we want more than one item on the agenda.

Our recommendations are based upon (1) a lively issues membership meeting and (2) suggestions from individual league units. The membership meeting, held in November, was represented by at least two members from each unit. All twelve of the lively issues were discussed by a panel of four, with questions and comments by the members after the discussion. A vote was taken at the meeting to determine the main points of interest. Reorganization of State Government led with Human Rights and Retirement Funds tied for second place. Taxes placed third.

The unit suggestions were wide and varied, with most all units handing in at least two recommendations--and some of them four and five. Tallying these suggestions showed Human Rights and Taxation in the lead, with Retirement coming in fairly strong. Reorganization of State Government had lost all its support from the time of the membership meeting. Taxes, in one form or another, was suggested by all but two units. It is probable that taxes were so popular because of the timeliness of the subject, and the wide spread publicity it has received in legislative proceedings.

Other unit suggestions were: constitutional revision by amendment, civil defense, a study of the highway dept., mental health services, a fiscal study of financing municipalities, education with emphasis on crowded college conditions, water conservation, metropolitan consolidation, reorganization of state government, and a continuance of the corrupt practice study.

Very truly yours,

*Mrs. D. C. Gabe*

Mrs. D.C. Gabe  
State Item Chairman

State Program Suggestions

FEB 7 1961

from St. Anthony Village League of Women Voters

- < 1. States rights - what powers does state have as opposed to national government?
- < 2. Statewide look at county government - how does county government operate in the State of Minnesota?
- < 3. Continuing study of ethics in government, reapportionment and party designation.

The following were discussed and prepared by the units in their January meeting.

Unit 5

1. Study of refusal to render service or sell goods to minority groups with a view toward legislative control.
2. Support a state-wide mandatory registration of all eligible voters. We are particularly concerned about lack of registration in areas of less than 10,000 pop.

Unit 3 & 4

1. A study of human rights with emphasis on housing discrimination and on Indian rehabilitation.
2. A study of the possibility of closer relations between <sup>civil</sup> defense programs and policies as they affect civic organizations and clubs.
3. A plan to consolidate state governmental departments and to place related functions under logical departmental jurisdiction.
4. A study of consumer credit with an aim toward future legislation.

Unit 2

1. The League will work to insure human and civil rights for all the people of Minnesota, with particular reference to housing and employment.
2. The League of Women Voters will work for the registration of all citizens of voting age within the state of Minnesota.
3. A study of the form and nature of consumer credit protections.
4. A study of existing consumer protections with a view toward the need for consumer representation in the state government.

Unit 1

1. A study of human rights with emphasis on housing discrimination and Indian problems.
2. Evaluation of existing public welfare <sup>programs,</sup>
3. Study of juvenile delinquency.
4. Continuation of constitutional revision.



Postmarked 2/11/61

FEB 14 1961

# ST. CROIX VALLEY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

February 10, 1961

To: State Board

From: Margery Becker, President  
St. Croix Valley

Re: State Program

On February 8th we held unit meetings to discuss information sent us by individual leaguers on Fair Housing and Indian Problems and any other suggested state items, with the following results:

1. We did find a general feeling in all units that both Fair Housing and Indian Problems were the type of item Leaguers could really put their teeth into, and that such a study concerning human values had more appeal for attracting new members and reviving interest of old ones.

2. We did not come up with any new suggestions. There was one member who wanted to study new tax proposals, a push by another for more water study on a state level, and a reminder by a few that we must not forget our CRS.

3. When it came to actual concensus, we found:

Morning Unit: Went along with the recommended wording of the Committee for the Promotion of a State Civil Rights Item "The League will work to insure human and civil rights for all the people of Minnesota, with particular reference to housing and employment". "This wording would enable the League to study problems of the Indian and the migrant worker if we wish to do so."

Stillwater Unit: (All new members) Felt Fair Housing would be too controversial, and preferred the Indian item

Evening Unit: Wanted to study both items, separately

It appears we need a general meeting, but since first recommendations are now due, I am sending this report as is.

FEB 13 1961

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of St. Louis Park

St. Louis Park, Minnesota



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

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SUGGESTIONS FOR STATE CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS, 1961-63, MADE BY UNITS OF THE  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ST. LOUIS PARK:

1. The League of Women Voters shall work for uniformity of election laws within the state of Minnesota, with emphasis on (a) requirements for voting, and (b) registration procedures.
2. A study of the traffic safety factors with regard to (a) law enforcement; (b) licensing of drivers; (c) highway planning; and (d) citizen education.
3. A study of the development of a greater metropolitan plan of government, in contrast to the development of individual suburbs with separate governmental units, as an answer to such problems as (a) law enforcement and (b) water usage.
4. A study of the financing and directing of public education on all levels.
5. A study of legislation on health and public welfare.
6. The League of Women Voters will work to insure human and civil rights for all the people of Minnesota, with particular reference to housing and employment.

*Wilma K. Davidson*  
Mrs. E. C. Davidson  
President

# League of Women Voters of St. Paul

29 East Fifth Street

Saint Paul 1, Minnesota

FEB 13 1961

CA. 2-3178

4-6

Items recommended for state program:

I League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support improvements in controlling legislation in the area of ~~ethics~~ in government including: lobby regulation, conflicts in interest and campaign financing and practices.

The board felt that even after two years of study the over-all membership possesses no basis of understanding of the particulars. This was evidenced 1) when the committee presented this year's material to the individual units and 2) in the type of questions asked when reviewing last year's consensus.

The scope would of course depend on legislation passed in the 1961 legislature. However the members stated that not enough material was presented on dollar limitations and labor and management contributions. Perhaps these areas could be studied further. We would like more material presented on the "conflicts of interests" problem here in Minnesota and other states having part time legislators. We feel that the item should not be dropped after only two years of study.

II League of Women Voters Of Minnesota will study problems of insuring human and civil rights for all the people of Minnesota with particular reference to housing and employment. (See second sheet)

Continuing Responsibilities would include those now on the agenda and would add: election laws and party designation.

# League of Women Voters of St. Paul

29 East Fifth Street

Saint Paul 1, Minnesota

CA. 2-3178

4-10-66

Minority Report of those board members opposed to the housing item.

At least one hour was spent in arguing this item before any decision was reached. Those who opposed this item did so for the following reasons: 1) possibility that housing problem cannot be solved through legislation.

2) There were questions whether this is a part of governmental structure. Problems relating to constitutional revision, and election laws obviously are a part.

3) The League would be duplicating other organizations' work: church, ACLU, Urban League, etc. No other organizations are interested in study of constitutional revision etc.

4) Would be impossible to obtain objective consensus- too emotional a problem.

5) Item covered too broad an area- Indian problem should be on national level.

6) Number of units requesting does not necessarily mean its adoption.

Several board people admitted after the meeting that perhaps they had voted too hastily and were swept away by one person's arguments.

Those who favored this item stated:

1) The work on FEP set the precedent for this study.

2) The League is equipped to do an objective survey.

3) The League has the women power and prestige to solve and correct this problem

4) 12 units of 21 sending in suggestions requested this item. St. Paul League now has 30 units.

Good luck!

Maxine W. McDonald (Mrs. Clyde F.)



Silver Bay, Minnesota  
February 7, 1961

FEB 8 1961

Dear Mrs. Wilson,

Following are state program suggestions from our LWV. We have three units and each held discussion during the month of January on Lively Issues. The consensus of this discussion was as follows:

- < 1. A study of Human and Civil Rights as pertaining to the people of Minnesota.
- < 2. A study of Consumer Credit

Much thought was given by the Board members as to continuing the study of the present program in regard to Ethics in Government, and if necessary, Party Designation.

Very truly yours,  
Mrs. Carl Hultstrom, Pres.  
*Ruby Hultstrom*  
Silver Bay L.of W.V.

# League of Women Voters

WELLS, MINNESOTA  
February 9, 1961

FEB 13 1961

League of Women Voters  
U. of Minnesota  
15th and Washington Ave. SE  
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

Dear Madam:

We have just begun our county government study, but it already is apparent that any such study comes up against the problems concerning welfare. Since the state has final say on even county funds and these funds are large we feel a thorough study by a non-partisan group as the LWV is urgent.

Because the Welfare Program is so large a part, both in personnel and finance, of modern government, the general public should be more informed in order to evaluate the various trends and criticisms.

The Wells League of Women Voters therefore proposes as a State Item: The Study of: 'the Minnesota Welfare Program that we may become familiar with the state laws and machinery in order to appraise their efficiency as related to cost, service and need. '//

Yours truly,

*Mrs. Joseph Gadola*  
Mrs. Joseph Gadola, Secy.

FEB 6 1961

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
of West St. Paul, Minn.



The Board of the League of Women Voters of West St. Paul submits the following items for your consideration for the Current Agenda in 1961-2. In order of preference:

1. Reorganization of the state government: A study with a view to support of legislation which would facilitate economy and efficiency in the state government. (Our wording is a bit spotty, but the desire here was for a general study followed, as in election laws, by study of more specific areas such as the welfare department which would bring out problems of administration thereof, which also interested some of our members. This held true also for those expressing an interest in the department of corrections. As other topics were considered so many came down to questions of reorganization to insure efficiency. Generally, the feeling was that this area of reorganization was one that is particularly suited to League study.
2. Constitutional Revision : a study of the problems of constitutional revision so that the Minnesota League of Women Voters could take a more active part in the proposing of amendments.
3. Water Conservation with emphasis on enforcement provisions regarding pollution and watersheds.

The Board of the League of Women Voters of West St. Paul wishes to go on record as opposed to a state study item on Human Rights. While we are in sympathy with those who support equal opportunity in securing adequate housing for minority groups, we do not feel the League should join in this particular controversy at this time. Emotions, philosophies and ethical concepts so deep seated are here involved that we feel the League's particular dispassionate, analytical type of study would be difficult, leading to divisive elements which the League has never had to any extent in the past, consensus would be difficult, if not impossible to reach and the League would emerge from such a study considerably weakened, both internally and in the public eye. We would recommend that those who favor such an item, and there certainly are many, channel their energies into those organizations which are better prepared to enter the fray at this time.

Mrs. Donald Mains, State Item Chairman, for the  
Board of Directors, West St. Paul, League of Women Voters.

FEB 13 1961

League of Women Voters of White Bear Lake  
WHITE BEAR LAKE 10, MINNESOTA

Feb. 11-1961

2434 E. Giselle Blvd.

The following study items were suggested by the units but not recommended by the board since they appeared in each case only once.

1. The White Bear Lake League wishes to purpose "a study of Constitutional Revision with emphases on Amendments in the order which action seems most vigilantly needed."
2. The W. B. L. wishes to study reorganization of state government.
3. The W. B. L. wishes to study the tax structure of Minnesota, especially fairness in real estate taxes and their relation & uniformity among all counties.



Sent Sp. Rep. - Came after 4:30 2/13

League of Women Voters of White Bear Lake

WHITE BEAR LAKE 10, MINNESOTA

2434 E. Theller Blvd.

FEB 13 1961

Feb. 11 - 1961

The following state program suggestions are recommended by the board of White Bear Lake; a two item recommendation

1. The White Bear League wishes to purpose "a study of Minnesota's Indian Citizen with emphasis on areas of welfare, education and economic opportunity."

2. "The League will work to insure human and civil rights for all the people of Minnesota, with particular reference to housing and employment."

February 11- 1961

I propose the following Current Agenda:

The League of Women Voters will study the Constitution of the state of Minnesota and will propose specific amendments for needed revisions.

The League in Minnesota has not seriously studied our basic document; Ratherr, we accepted the recommendations for revision made by the 1947 Commission. We have accomplished much by our pressure for a convention; our old C.R.'s are out of date- we need new study, new positions- new procedures.

2

Not put in convention book because of lack of  
signature.

Parchment Deed

SOUTHWORTH CO.

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U.S.A.

134 Warwick Street S.E.  
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota  
February 14, 1961

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

Dear League Ladies:

I should like to recommend that the following item be considered as a single item agenda for the state program for 1961-1962:

< The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will work for continuing revision of the State Constitution, with particular reference to areas not heretofore considered by the League, and including areas in which no real revision effort has been made.

This is obviously clumsy wording. It could be refined. The reason for stating the item in such a way is to dramatize a condition having at least two consequences. The list of what we came to call "specifics" on the 1955-56 (?) program is out of date, partly because some of the specifics have been accomplished, partly because new ways of looking at them call for our looking at them too. What does this mean in terms of a League program item? It means that our long, sometimes discouraging, drive for constitutional revision has been and still is eminently successful! Because we hammered away at the calling of a convention and supported or opposed amendments, legislative hands were forced and improvements are being made. We need to tell both our own membership and the public that we are getting what we went after. It also means that it is time to put the item back under the microscope and find new areas or rediscover old ones that will make for exciting, information-packed, study and action. The item as stated above would clearly open the way for re-emphasis on such constitutional provisions as the amendment process, or for new and detailed study of tax provisions. Another argument: if a new commission to study constitutional revision is appointed by the governor or established by the legislature, we will find ourselves leading the pack if we have it on our current agenda, wishing we had it on, if we did not.

Items now on the agenda could easily be assigned to the continuing responsibility list. Our positions are, or will be, clear on all of them. There is no reason why we could not continue to promote such positions from CRs.

Sincerely yours,

*Sis*

Eleanor M. Salisbury,  
Unit 30, LWV of Minneapolis



League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.  
March 1961

030861D-10¢

## PROPOSED STATE PROGRAM - 1961-1963

### PROPOSED CURRENT AGENDA ITEM I

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision.

### PROPOSED CURRENT AGENDA ITEM II

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and will study other problems of discrimination.

### PROPOSED CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

These are positions on state issues to which the League of Women Voters of Minnesota has given sustained attention and on which it may continue to act.

1. Ethics in government (conflict of interest and lobby regulation)
2. Election laws, party designation and corrupt practices
3. Reapportionment by amendment
4. Home Rule

### Explanation of Proposed Current Agenda

"The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision."

1. This item successfully meets all criteria for League program.
2. It falls under all the League principles which apply.
3. Since we have been concerned with constitutional shortcomings and working on the amendments, this is an opportune time for the total membership of the League of Women Voters to study the basic document. An understanding of the constitutional is fundamental to an understanding of all problems of state government.
4. If a new commission to study constitutional revision is appointed by the Governor or established by the legislature, we will find ourselves in the vanguard if we have this item on our current agenda and we would be in a better position to keep the citizens of Minnesota better informed on constitutional revision. Under this item the League could study many subjects sent in as program recommendations such as taxation, education, reorganization of government, home rule and others.



"The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and will study other problems of discrimination."

1. This item is recommended by the Board because of the number of local Leagues making suggestions in this area.
2. The item meets some of the criteria for League program, and a number of the principles.
3. Possible areas of study would be discrimination in employment or housing because of age, sex, marital status, or minority group membership.

#### Non Recommended Items

1. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will work to insure human and civil rights for all the people of Minnesota with particular reference to housing and employment.
2. A study of Minnesota's Indian citizen with emphasis on areas of welfare, education and economic opportunity.
3. Taxation -- for example: A study of the state tax structure, with emphasis on sources of revenue and more efficient methods of collecting, equalizing and distributing tax money.
4. Study of the Minnesota welfare program.
5. Ethics in government.
6. Consumer credit.
7. Traffic safety factors with regard to a) law enforcement; b) licensing of drivers; c) highway planning; d) citizen education.
8. Reorganization of state government.
9. Financing and control of public schools in Minnesota.
10. Juvenile problems and correctional system in Minnesota.
11. Study of Minnesota water with emphasis on pollution and conservation of supply.
12. Home rule for counties.
13. Election laws, with emphasis on a) requirements for voting, and b) registration procedure.
14. A study of the development of a greater metropolitan plan of government, in contrast to the development of individual suburbs with separate governmental units, as an answer to such problems as a) law enforcement and b) water usage.
15. States rights - What powers does state have as opposed to national government?
16. Reapportionment.
17. Party designation.
18. Civil Defense.
19. Aid to distressed areas.

## OPEN LETTER TO LEAGUE MEMBERS IN MINNESOTA

The state Board did a most thoughtful and analytical job before it made its recommendations for State Program for 1961-1963. We realize that we have a dual role in this situation, (1) to interpret the wishes of the members as evidenced in the first round of program suggestions (which came in from 32 local Leagues) and (2) to reflect our own concern for the welfare and continued health of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota as a whole. We are a statewide organization; our program should reflect this.

It is our belief that Item I, "The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision," does meet all League principles and criteria and would weld our membership into a cohesive group, knowledgeable in the provisions of our basic document, and able to make intelligent proposals for its revision. Since revision is being accomplished in each session, with little plan or design, our activities in this field are desperately needed.

The proposed Item II, "The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and will study other problems of discrimination," is our idea of a civil rights item which could more properly be on a state program than the wording suggested by the "Committee for the Promotion of a Civil Rights Item" and sent in by several Leagues. The state Board has serious reservations as to the item itself -- the duplication of the work of numerous other organizations, the emotional aspect of the whole subject, the question as to the statewide appeal. We did not presume to attempt to evaluate the amount of influence exerted by the work of the committee dedicated to promoting this item on our state program. We took the suggestion in the civil rights field at face value, as a sincere expression of our members' desire to be active in this area. We felt almost a moral obligation to reflect this in our proposed program. The flood of second round suggestions which we anticipate will tell us whether we were right or not.

The final choice, as always, is yours. It is you, the member, who at convention will decide the way we shall go. The state Board fervently hopes that you will exercise this responsibility with thought, with restraint, and with a deep concern for our future as an organization.

Mrs. O. H. Anderson  
President

The state Board is providing enough copies of the Proposed Program for each unit in your League. We hope this will help all your members to take part in this grass roots process. We ask your unit members to send their suggestions to the local League Board promptly, expecting then that your Board will review and summarize the results and send them to the state Board by April 11. If some of your units are unable to meet the local Board deadline, we encourage them to send their suggestions direct to the state office.

On the basis of membership discussion the local Board may:

1. Accept all or part of the program as proposed,
2. submit a revision of proposed item or items (this could be a revision of the wording but not a change in the intent),
3. submit a not recommended item (a new item may not be introduced).

During your discussion of the Proposed State Program we remind you to consider the workload involved in your proposal. In recommending your item, please include a definition of your suggestion as well as some indication of the scope of the item.

The state Board reviews this second round of suggestions and submits a Proposed Program to the State Convention.

#### 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 Local League Handbook and the principles enumerated in the National Program. Every proposed item should be thoughtfully checked against these two measures.

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.



The criteria are:

1. Does it come within the Principles of the League of Women Voters?
2. Is it a governmental problem?
3. Is the problem one which state government can solve?
4. Is it the best time to take up the proposed item?
5. Is the problem basic or only a part of a larger problem?
6. What would be the source of public funds if they are necessary to carry the proposed item to successful conclusion?
7. Can the League offer a solution, or work toward a solution?
8. Will it give League members good experience in citizen action and provide a good combination of exploratory work and action?
9. Has the League sufficient knowledge, womanpower, and funds to carry out the proposal? When it is added to the local League's responsibility for local and national programs will the program load be too heavy?
10. Will the League duplicate unnecessarily the work of other organizations?  
Is there another organization better adapted to do the job?
11. Is this the area in which the League can make its most valuable contribution to the state?
12. What is the present attitude of the state toward the problem? If it is unpopular, does the League have the strength and know-how to handle it successfully?
13. Will all sections of the state be interested in the problem? Will it bring together diverse groups?
14. Is there likelihood of some tangible success?
15. Will it involve decisions of a professional or technical nature which the League is not equipped to make?



League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.  
March 1961

030861D-10¢

## PROPOSED STATE PROGRAM - 1961-1963

### PROPOSED CURRENT AGENDA ITEM I

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision.

### PROPOSED CURRENT AGENDA ITEM II

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and will study other problems of discrimination.

### PROPOSED CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

These are positions on state issues to which the League of Women Voters of Minnesota has given sustained attention and on which it may continue to act.

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2. Election laws, party designation and corrupt practices
3. Reapportionment by amendment
4. Home Rule

### Explanation of Proposed Current Agenda

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1. This item successfully meets all criteria for League program.
2. It falls under all the League principles which apply.
3. Since we have been concerned with constitutional shortcomings and working on the amendments, this is an opportune time for the total membership of the League of Women Voters to study the basic document. An understanding of the constitutional is fundamental to an understanding of all problems of state government.
4. If a new commission to study constitutional revision is appointed by the Governor or established by the legislature, we will find ourselves in the vanguard if we have this item on our current agenda and we would be in a better position to keep the citizens of Minnesota better informed on constitutional revision. Under this item the League could study many subjects sent in as program recommendations such as taxation, education, reorganization of government, home rule and others.

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8. Reorganization of state government.
9. Financing and control of public schools in Minnesota.
10. Juvenile problems and correctional system in Minnesota.
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12. Home rule for counties.
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19. Aid to distressed areas.

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The state Board did a most thoughtful and analytical job before it made its recommendations for State Program for 1961-1963. We realize that we have a dual role in this situation, (1) to interpret the wishes of the members as evidenced in the first round of program suggestions (which came in from 32 local Leagues) and (2) to reflect our own concern for the welfare and continued health of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota as a whole. We are a statewide organization; our program should reflect this.

It is our belief that Item I, "The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the constitution of the state of Minnesota, and will propose specific amendments for needed revision," does meet all League principles and criteria and would weld our membership into a cohesive group, knowledgeable in the provisions of our basic document, and able to make intelligent proposals for its revision. Since revision is being accomplished in each session, with little plan or design, our activities in this field are desperately needed.

The proposed Item II, "The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and will study other problems of discrimination," is our idea of a civil rights item which could more properly be on a state program than the wording suggested by the "Committee for the Promotion of a Civil Rights Item" and sent in by several Leagues. The state Board has serious reservations as to the item itself -- the duplication of the work of numerous other organizations, the emotional aspect of the whole subject, the question as to the statewide appeal. We did not presume to attempt to evaluate the amount of influence exerted by the work of the committee dedicated to promoting this item on our state program. We took the suggestion in the civil rights field at face value, as a sincere expression of our members' desire to be active in this area. We felt almost a moral obligation to reflect this in our proposed program. The flood of second round suggestions which we anticipate will tell us whether we were right or not.

The final choice, as always, is yours. It is you, the member, who at convention will decide the way we shall go. The state Board fervently hopes that you will exercise this responsibility with thought, with restraint, and with a deep concern for our future as an organization.

Mrs. O. H. Anderson  
President



The state Board is providing enough copies of the Proposed Program for each unit in your League. We hope this will help all your members to take part in this grass roots process. We ask your unit members to send their suggestions to the local League Board promptly, expecting then that your Board will review and summarize the results and send them to the state Board by April 11. If some of your units are unable to meet the local Board deadline, we encourage them to send their suggestions direct to the state office.

On the basis of membership discussion the local Board may:

1. Accept all or part of the program as proposed,
2. submit a revision of proposed item or items (this could be a revision of the wording but not a change in the intent),
3. submit a not recommended item (a new item may not be introduced).

During your discussion of the Proposed State Program we remind you to consider the workload involved in your proposal. In recommending your item, please include a definition of your suggestion as well as some indication of the scope of the item.

The state Board reviews this second round of suggestions and submits a Proposed Program to the State Convention.

#### 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 Local League Handbook and the principles enumerated in the National Program. Every proposed item should be thoughtfully checked against these two measures.

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.



The criteria are:

1. Does it come within the Principles of the League of Women Voters?
2. Is it a governmental problem?
3. Is the problem one which state government can solve?
4. Is it the best time to take up the proposed item?
5. Is the problem basic or only a part of a larger problem?
6. What would be the source of public funds if they are necessary to carry the proposed item to successful conclusion?
7. Can the League offer a solution, or work toward a solution?
8. Will it give League members good experience in citizen action and provide a good combination of exploratory work and action?
9. Has the League sufficient knowledge, womanpower, and funds to carry out the proposal? When it is added to the local League's responsibility for local and national programs will the program load be too heavy?
10. Will the League duplicate unnecessarily the work of other organizations?  
Is there another organization better adapted to do the job?
11. Is this the area in which the League can make its most valuable contribution to the state?
12. What is the present attitude of the state toward the problem? If it is unpopular, does the League have the strength and know-how to handle it successfully?
13. Will all sections of the state be interested in the problem? Will it bring together diverse groups?
14. Is there likelihood of some tangible success?
15. Will it involve decisions of a professional or technical nature which the League is not equipped to make?

Roberta

MAR 29 1961

To those League members interested in a civil rights item for the 1961 agenda of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota:

March 25, 1961

Dear League Member,

By now you may have received the recommendations of the State Board of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota for the 1961-63 state agenda. The State Board, feeling that member interest should be reflected in the proposed items, has properly included an item on civil rights, "The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue its support of the principles of the Fair Employment Practices Act and will study other problems of discrimination." The wording of this item apparently expresses the thinking of many Leagues throughout the state, and would permit study of any discrimination which exists because of age or sex or membership in a minority group.

The Committee for the Promotion of a Civil Rights Item is happy to accept the item as recommended by the State Board. The committee, however, cannot take credit for the wide concern for a civil rights item. Over 600 Leaguers have expressed an interest in a study of civil rights, almost half of these living outside the twin cities area. It would appear that this item has state-wide appeal. If the committee has had any success in articulating this concern, it is grateful.

Although the committee recognizes that other organizations are interested in promoting civil rights, it feels that the League is uniquely qualified to work in this area because of its grass roots unit organization, its ability to further public education, its reputation for fairness and objectivity, and its record of action on important legislation.

In addition, four national principles of the League of Women Voters would seem to justify adoption of a civil rights item:

- Principle No. 9 : "Protection of minority groups against discrimination."
- Principle No. 10: "Removal of legal and administrative discriminations against women."
- Principle No. 13: "Responsibility of government to share in the solution of social and economic problems which affect the general welfare."
- Principle No. 16: "Domestic policies which facilitate the solution of international problems and promoting world peace."

If you are interested in adoption of a civil rights item, we hope you will make your wishes known in two ways: 1) inform your delegates to the May state convention, 2) express your preference at your next unit meeting when second-round program suggestions are submitted. We should like to urge you, when you send in your second round suggestions, to reiterate specifically your desire to have a civil rights agenda item adopted. We feel that to fail to say anything about it on second round will indicate a lack of interest in the item, and the State Board will so interpret it.

Sincerely,

COMMITTEE FOR PROMOTION OF A CIVIL RIGHTS ITEM  
Elizabeth Zumwinkle, co-chairman  
Annette Hughart, secretary

Sent to HH (Bul. Ed & St. Chairway) by 3/16/61  
W B Baker member

A PROPOSED STUDY OF MINNESOTA'S INDIAN CITIZENS WITH EMPHASIS ON  
AREAS OF WELFARE, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY.

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No, these facts state briefly and dramatically the condition and plight of about 20,000 Minnesota citizens - our ignored minority, the Chippewas of Minnesota.

"As a whole the Indians live in deeper poverty than any other racial group in the nation. Not even the Puerto Ricans, our latest newcomers, are as disadvantaged. --- This fact helps explain many other facts about their achievements and their attitudes."\*

The reasons for not only our interest but our study and eventual action can be briefly stated as:

1. Humanitarian concern for all our fellow men, especially those less fortunate than ourselves.

2. The very real debt we owe to the Indian. From him, taken without adequate recompense, has come our whole country and the basis of our standard of living. It is not too hard to imagine our country in the deplorable situation of the Union of South Africa today if the conditions of our conquest had been just a little different.

3. Our treatment of the Indian can be discussed only with apologies in our dealing with other non-white nations - the bulk of the world population. How can we ask the Asian-African nations to respect and emulate us when we have repeatedly broken treaty after treaty with these non-white citizens and have continued to ignore their needs and aspirations?

4. And if the appeal can't be made to our Christian morality, a sense of fair play, and how we appear in the eyes of other nations, there is the equally valid appeal to the American pocketbook. Nationally since 1900 well over one billion dollars has been spent for the Indian. From our Federal, state and local taxes much money goes annually to maintain these citizens in their morass of poverty. Wouldn't it be sensible to spend the money in such a way so that the Indian can be helped to help himself, become self-supporting, live in decency, and utilize his tremendously valuable human potential?

Due to lack of information or a self-righteous attempt to excuse our lack of concern, the idea is spread that Indians are Federal responsibility and therefore there is nothing that we can do. This is not so. The state does have responsibility, definite legal responsibility.

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2. The Federal government is officially withdrawing as a protector and provider to the Indian. House Concurrent Resolution 100 was passed in 1953 stating that as rapidly as possible the Indians are to be made subject to the same laws, privileges and responsibilities as other citizens; that they are to end their status as wards of the United States; and that the Indian should assume his full responsibility as an American citizen.

Since the passage of this resolution, health, education and welfare have been transferred from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. A relocation program has been started to establish Indians off of the reservation. In 1953 Public Law 280 was passed by Congress making the Indian subject to state civil and criminal codes.

In Minnesota at the present time, the following are the major programs affecting the Indian in the areas of welfare, education and economic opportunities:

State and Local Role:

1. Indians have full state citizenship, have the right to vote and to run for public office.

2. Indians are subject to state and local law and are entitled to protection under these laws.

3. Welfare a. welfare programs are administered locally with state regulation.

b. The state's share of various welfare programs is about 25%, the local government's share varies, up to 25%. In addition the local government has to advance the relief money. If this necessitates borrowing, the interest charges must be paid by the local government.

4. Education a. The local school boards, with the state assistance given to all schools, have full responsibility for elementary and high school education of the Indian.

b. The state provides university scholarships solely for Indians. (\$15,000 allotted for the biennium 1959-61).

c. Free tuition is granted to Indians at the branches of the University of Minnesota.

Federal Role:

1. Tribal assets and funds are kept by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

2. Reservation assets are property tax exempt.

3. The Federal government provides for various welfare programs, some for all citizens, some for Indians only. It pays for about 50% of these programs depending on the plan. The administration is done locally with state regulation.

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Tribes Role:

1. Theoretically Indians handle their affairs through their elected tribal councils. The Bureau of Indian Affairs works through the tribal councils.

2. Tribal assets - Red Lake reservation, 260,000 acres; about 3,500 members; assets of several million dollars; annual income from these assets \$400,000.



Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, 179,000 acres, the remaining Chippewa Reservations in Minnesota, about 7,000 members, assets 3-4 million dollars, annual income from these assets \$30,000 - not sufficient to even support the tribal administration.

3. Economic development - Red Lake, a fishery and a lumber mill. Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, none.

4. Job opportunities - Very few Indians have year round employment. Due to poor natural resources and lack of development, employment opportunities are few. Tribes are too poor to do the developing themselves.

Conflicting Responsibility with Few Results:

1. Working with the Indian, respecting his aspirations, enabling him to find a decent way of life.
2. Economic development of assets.
3. Law enforcement.
4. Housing.

The study of Indians in Minnesota would be one which amply meets all League standards.

1. Criteria: All fifteen apply. The above discussion points out that the state has a legal and legislative role; that the state can and should fill the vacuum in many areas; that the state's role will continue to increase in the future; and that state legislation can help solve many of the problems.

The League can get sufficient information on the problem. A few groups are active in this area (Indian Committee of the Governor's Human Rights Commission, Legislative Interim Commission on Indian Affairs, church groups, etc.) The League could also, as an impartial group, perhaps do much to help these groups work toward common goals.

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There is great need for consistent, uniform, long range planning so that the Indians, government and all of us can know what to expect. Coordinated and uniform law and treatment can best and perhaps only come at the state level.

#8 - A system of free public education which provides equal opportunity for all.

While it isn't due to segregation, Indians don't have equal opportunity in education. Due to economic and social deprivation, shyness and fear of the unknown, parental apathy, or something as uncomplicated as not having proper clothing, Indian youth aren't receiving full education. According to the Reverend George Smith, an Indian minister living at Cass Lake, about 20% of 8th grade Indian graduates finish high school. The average for the rest of Minnesota is 85%. Advanced education poses even a greater financial, social and emotional barrier; yet education is the keystone to any ultimate solution.

#9 - Protection of minority groups against discrimination.

Discrimination does exist and combined with economic and educational status erects a tremendous barrier to the individual Indian and to the tribes in their business dealings. However, from the League's point of view, an equal discrimination is the legal ambiguity that

states on one hand that the Indian is a full State citizen and on the other that the Indian is a ward of the Federal government and therefore the state has no responsibility for him.

#13 - Responsibility of government to share in the solution of social and economic problems which affect the general welfare.

This is the major principle that applies. The social and economic problems are tremendous. They are the morass that keeps the Indian from realizing his potential, from becoming a useful, contributing citizen. Instead his condition is a degradation to any man and a disgrace in this country that so vocally champions freedom, equal opportunity and fair play. Government is deeply involved in the problems (some say that government has caused many of them), and government must be used to solve the problems. There can be no doubting that the general welfare is affected.

#15 - Conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest.

Any ideas for economic development must hinge on this principle. Indian assets are in natural resources - timber, fish, wild rice, recreation areas. These need development not only for the Indian's benefit, but to stop the wasting of these assets which could benefit the whole state.

3. Human values: The study of Minnesota's Indian citizens will show areas of immense need. There is need for legislation, clarification of jurisdiction, development of proper attitudes, and awakening the citizenry to the problems. We in the League pride ourselves on taking on jobs which need doing badly although they may be unpopular or are met with vast voter indifference. We like to champion the underdog, the politically impotent. We can find no greater challenge than this study.

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Study alone will reveal the extent of League interest and action, however the need is immediate, the interested groups few and the public attitude one of apathy and ignorance. Citizen education and state legislative action are vitally needed. Won't you lend your support in making this a League study item for 1961-3?

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1. Tribal assets and funds are kept by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

2. Reservation assets are property tax exempt.

3. The Federal government provides for various welfare programs, some for all citizens, some for Indians only. It pays for about 50% of these programs depending on the plan. The administration is done locally with state regulation.

4. Local schools are paid amounts equal to what would have been paid in property taxes on reservation assets. The Federal government provides some aid in university scholarships, vocational training, an adult education program and a relocation program for Indians.

Tribes' Role:

1. Theoretically Indians handle their affairs through their elected tribal councils. The Bureau of Indian Affairs works through the tribal councils.

2. Tribal assets - Red Lake reservation, 260,000 acres; about 3,500 members; assets of several million dollars; annual income from these assets \$400,000.



Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, 179,000 acres, the remaining Chippewa Reservations in Minnesota, about 7,000 members, assets 3-4 million dollars, annual income from these assets \$30,000 - not sufficient to even support the tribal administration.

3. Economic development - Red Lake, a fishery and a lumber mill.

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, none.

4. Job opportunities - Very few Indians have year round employment. Due to poor natural resources and lack of development, employment opportunities are few. Tribes are too poor to do the developing themselves.

Conflicting Responsibility with Few Results:

1. Working with the Indian, respecting his aspirations, enabling him to find a decent way of life.

2. Economic development of assets.

3. Law enforcement.

4. Housing.

The study of Indians in Minnesota would be one which amply meets all League standards.

1. Criteria: All fifteen apply. The above discussion points out that the state has a legal and legislative role; that the state can and should fill the vacuum in many areas; that the state's role will continue to increase in the future; and that state legislation can help solve many of the problems.

The League can get sufficient information on the problem. A few groups are active in this area (Indian Committee of the Governor's Human Rights Commission, Legislative Interim Commission on Indian Affairs, church groups, etc.) The League could also, as an impartial group, perhaps do much to help these groups work toward common goals.

2. Principles: Those with special application:

#4 - A system of government which promotes coordination of the operations of Federal, state and local governments.

There is great need for consistent, uniform, long range planning so that the Indians, government and all of us can know what to expect. Coordinated and uniform law and treatment can best and perhaps only come at the state level.

#8 - A system of free public education which provides equal opportunity for all.

While it isn't due to segregation, Indians don't have equal opportunity in education. Due to economic and social deprivation, shyness and fear of the unknown, parental apathy, or something as uncomplicated as not having proper clothing, Indian youth aren't receiving full education. According to the Reverend George Smith, an Indian minister living at Cass Lake, about 20% of 8th grade Indian graduates finish high school. The average for the rest of Minnesota is 85%. Advanced education poses even a greater financial, social and emotional barrier; yet education is the keystone to any ultimate solution.

#9 - Protection of minority groups against discrimination.

Discrimination does exist and combined with economic and educational status erects a tremendous barrier to the individual Indian and to the tribes in their business dealings. However, from the League's point of view, an equal discrimination is the legal ambiguity that

states on one hand that the Indian is a full State citizen and on the other that the Indian is a ward of the Federal government and therefore the state has no responsibility for him.

#13 - Responsibility of government to share in the solution of social and economic problems which affect the general welfare.

This is the major principle that applies. The social and economic problems are tremendous. They are the morass that keeps the Indian from realizing his potential, from becoming a useful, contributing citizen. Instead his condition is a degradation to any man and a disgrace in this country that so vocally champions freedom, equal opportunity and fair play. Government is deeply involved in the problems (some say that government has caused many of them), and government must be used to solve the problems. There can be no doubting that the general welfare is affected.

#15 - Conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest.

Any ideas for economic development must hinge on this principle. Indian assets are in natural resources - timber, fish, wild rice, recreation areas. These need development not only for the Indian's benefit, but to stop the wasting of these assets which could benefit the whole state.

3. Human values: The study of Minnesota's Indian citizens will show areas of immense need. There is need for legislation, clarification of jurisdiction, development of proper attitudes, and awakening the citizenry to the problems. We in the League pride ourselves on taking on jobs which need doing badly although they may be unpopular or are met with vast voter indifference. We like to champion the underdog, the politically impotent. We can find no greater challenge than this study.

"Most Americans have an attitude of benevolent good will toward the Indian. We are prepared to help him on occasion by appropriations in Congress to avert starvation, or by gifts to missions, or by approving bills to end Federal wardship, which we are told are for his good. But are we prepared to help the Indian help himself, when such help may involve offending or causing economic loss to people of our own race? The real choice we have to make is between a course of action based on sentimental aversion to seeing people suffer and another course based on readiness to endure suffering ourselves to insure that justice is done."\*

Study alone will reveal the extent of League interest and action, however the need is immediate, the interested groups few and the public attitude one of apathy and ignorance. Citizen education and state legislative action are vitally needed. Won't you lend your support in making this a League study item for 1961-3?

Solon, the great Greek law reformer and properly called the father of democracy, was asked, "What is the essential ingredient of the ideal community?" He replied, "When those who have not been injured become as indignant as those who have."

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\* - ibid.

M  
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TO: Dorothy Anderson

FROM: Vi Kanatz

SUBJECT: President's Letter

MAR 13 1961

*Office*  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15th and WASHINGTON AVES. S.E.

MINNEAPOLIS 14, MINNESOTA

DATE March 11, 1961

I was very surprised when the President's Letter arrived today, to find that included with the material on State Program to the local Leagues, was a letter expressing the State's Board's reservations in regard to Recommended Current Agenda item 2.

It seemed to me that at our last Board meeting, we discussed rather thoroughly three alternatives. Number 1 - that the civil rights item not be recommended; this it was decided we could not do in view of the overwhelming response from the local Leagues. Number 2 - to use the wording of the item as it came in from the local Leagues, and express the State Board's grave reservations concerning such an item. Number 3 - to rework the item so as to make it acceptable as a program item, should it become an agenda item in May, and to present it for second-round programming without any indication of the Board's reservation.

After we had made the decision on No. 1, it seems to me that we had full discussion on points 2 and 3 - and took a vote deciding to follow the third course. It was within this context that Ginny, Fran, Irene and I spent the following afternoon working on the material which would explain the two



recommended items.

Had the Board decided to word the item, and present it's reservations, just as the item came in I would not personally have felt that it was operating to the best interests of the total League, nor up to the potential of the Board, and I was pleased that this was not the decision.

Had the Board decided after full discussion that the presentation of the item, even after reworking the wording, should be presented with our reservation, I would have voted against it, but would have gone along with the majority decision with no question.

But the Board decided that both items should be presented without any reservations, and so I am upset, and I think legitimately so, about the inclusion of this additional material in the proposed state program information.



Program File

March 20, 1961

Mrs Pat Casey, President  
LWV of Owatonna,  
703 Parkview Place  
Owatonna, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Casey,

Mrs. Anderson asked that I gather the information you requested re the Leagues that expressed an interest in taxes in the first round. The list is here included. In some cases it represents a Board decision, in some cases the interest of one unit or a few members, in some cases it was one item in a long list sent in.

Austin  
Battle Lake  
Brooklyn Center  
Duluth  
Golden Valley  
Moorhead  
Mound  
New Richland  
Owatonna  
Richfield  
Roseville  
White Bear Lake.

Hope this is of help to you. If you need more information, write again.

Sincerely,

*Grace*

Mrs. Harold Wilson  
Organization Secretary

M  
E  
M  
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TO: L M V

DATE 3-17-61

SUBJECT: Proposed State Program

MAR 20 1961

MRS. A. J. (PAT) CASEY  
703 Parkview Place  
OWATONNA, MINNESOTA

Please read, if you can, a break-down of  
program suggestions from Minn. local leagues. We  
are interested in how many leagues sent in what  
suggestions, and which leagues sent in Taxation.

Austin  
B. Lake  
B. Com.  
Cluluth  
9 Valley  
Worshood  
Mound  
N R.  
Owatonna  
Redfield  
Roseville  
W B h

Thank you—  
Ethel Casey

# THE MINNESOTA VOTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

VOL. 39

September-October, 1960

NO. 2

## A DOZEN LIVELY ISSUES

The "Lively Issues" edition of the Minnesota Voter comes to you, the member, from the state Board's desire to inspire more thoughtful, more varied, more imaginative Program suggestions. It is in no sense complete or final; the research involved is not in depth. We have no wish to lead or push you into any specific area. We do not even say that these are necessarily fields in which the League may properly act. We offer here a menu—if you will—designed to titillate your tastebuds.

The areas covered range—in no particular order—from those obviously akin to current League Program, through a variety of interesting possibilities, to some which you may consider far afield. What they have in common is the need for legislative action.

The presentations were prepared by a committee of six—three, members of the state Board, the other three, members of local Leagues. They present their own interests and judgments; they are accurate in factual content, but any apparent bias toward a specific subject or course of action represents the human tendency to become personally involved; no official state Board position is reflected.

I commend these committee members for their excellent work. If these Lively Issues stimulate from *you* a flood of suggestions in these, *or any other*, fields, we shall all be amply rewarded.

*Dorothy Anderson*

### 1. WELFARE

Minnesota has a broad humanitarian, federal-state-county supported program of assistance for persons in need. But there is much in the federal and state law that should have re-examination and change. In our legislative efforts to make sure that persons receive assistance only in cases of proven distress, we seem to have strung out enough red tape to hang the very assistance process itself.

For example, we categorize need into five distinct groups as follows: blind, aged (over 65), dependent child (under 18), totally disabled, and "all others" (this group is also referred to as "relief").

The assistance program for the first four groups is administered by the 87 counties, under federal and state regulations, and with federal, state, and county sharing costs. The fifth group—"all others"—is administered by the county, or in many cases in Minnesota, by the city, village, or township, and is financed entirely by local taxes. All five categories are treated differently—different maximum grants, different provisions for medical care, different requirements as to allowable other income. The needy person is further screened by the "residence requirements" which make an applicant ineligible for assistance if he has not lived in a certain place for a certain length of time.

Out of all this often comes confusion, delay and shunting about—not very helpful to a person in distress. Perhaps League study could find a solution providing that each individual be treated on the basis of determined need.

### 2. REORGANIZATION OF STATE GOVERNMENT

Two principles of the LWV directly point to an ever pressing problem of most state governments: "a system of government in which responsibility is clearly fixed" and "governmental organization and administration which contribute to economy and efficiency." The problem, of course, is reorganization of state government.

A look at this issue reveals that, as Governor Freeman put it in 1955, "Everyone who studies the problem agrees that reorganization is necessary, but not everyone supports the same solution." The difference of opinion arises in many ways. In some cases there is a point of view that the stability of an established agency or operation is good and most efficient, or that the reorganization should take some other form. In other cases there is a tendency for existing government agencies to be jealous of their existence and hesitate to be reorganized out of existence or into another status. Leaguers are familiar with this pattern at all levels of government. In fact, where Leaguers observe such a tendency they often be-



lieve it is a good place for them to step in.

Most recent major reorganization was in 1939 when the Department of Administration and the Civil Service system were created, and central budgetary controls were established. In the years since then, as the scope of government services has broadened, the need for more "rational" organization, according to Governor Freeman, has grown. Too many agencies and too many bosses conducting the state's business lessen efficiency and economy. In 1955, the Governor complained that when department heads come together "it is a veritable mass meeting."

The 1955 reorganization plan submitted by the Governor to the legislature proposed a reshuffling of the major departments and boards. Much of the substance of this proposal was passed, but after the session it was invalidated by a clerical error. Since then, two other plans have been presented, but only one major point gained—creation of a new corrections department, consolidating some of the functions formerly done by the Department of Public Welfare, the Youth Conservation Commission, and the state Board of Probation and Parole.

Here are some specific points in reorganization proposals. They suggest the difficulties involved.

Department of Commerce: In 1955, 1957 and 1959 it was proposed that the functions of from eight to eleven agencies be consolidated under a new Department of Commerce. It was argued that this reorganization would "assist the development of projects to stimulate business and industrial expansion." The agencies include, among others, the Department of Business Development, Department of Aeronautics, and the administrative functions of the Railroad and Warehouse Commission.

Railroad and Warehouse Commission: Both the Governor and a legislative interim commission have recommended that this commission be appointive rather than elective and that its housekeeping and administrative functions be transferred. It would retain its quasi-legislative and quasi-judicial functions.

Department of Labor: A new Department of Labor combining duties of the Department of Employment Security and the Industrial Commission has also been proposed three times.

These are only samples of proposals already made; formal plans have not even been offered in some areas. For example, there are 18 examining and licensing boards which duplicate each other in housekeeping and other functions. Not yet at the point of public discus-

sion is the possible need for governmental machinery to bring together and coordinate planning of the state's numerous programs and projects. There is little doubt that reorganization would be a rich field for study.

### 3. CONSUMER CREDIT

Buy now—pay later. Our economy appears to thrive on this concept; but careful study of the extent of consumer credit today raises some serious questions. Not the least of these is "How much does it cost to 'pay later'?"

Some extenders of credit do their utmost to disguise the actual cost of "paying later," for example:

A consumer is quoted a price in terms of so much down and so much a month, with the price of credit buried in this "easy terms" quotation.

The price of credit is quoted as a monthly rate, making the true annual rate 12 times the quoted monthly rate.

Credit is quoted as a percentage of the original amount, rather than of the unpaid balance. Under such circumstances, the real rate is about double the rate stated.

The price of credit is stated as an "add-on" or "discount," applied to the original amount. This also makes the true rate approximately twice the rate quoted.

It takes a pretty sharp consumer to cut through this web of payment schemes to the truth. One solution would be what has already been proposed at both the state and national level: a full disclosure law, requiring that the seller clearly set forth on the credit contract the complete extent of the finance charges. Some believe this disclosure should be stated in terms of true annual interest. As women, we are important consumers. It would be interesting and illuminating for us to take a look at this problem.

### 4. WATER CONSERVATION

Our four-year national water resources study and related work looking at Minnesota's waters brought us face to face with a number of water associated state issues. We are already familiar with state machinery for managing water resources. We know that the Water

Resources Board has advisory power to integrate state water policies; but without enforcement authority, the Board will always have difficulty achieving coordinated management. What other states do and what is the most effective sort of statewide authority was not part of our previous investigation.

One interested group, the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, suggests that all natural resources are so interrelated that their management should be attacked on a broad scale. The Association has asked the 1961 legislature to create an interim commission to study a proposal for a "Council of Natural Resources."

The tool that the Water Resources Board is presently using to promote integrated water management—the small watershed district — perhaps needs attention. Only slightly more than two per cent of the state's total area has been organized into districts. Some of the questions raised by this slow development are: Should the formation of districts be compulsory, rather than voluntary? Can more financial authority be given so the district can be more effective in coping with pollution problems? Should the state give more financial aid to encourage formation?

Another issue closely related to water is recreation. The happy forecast that Americans will have increasing leisure time in future years lends special importance to development of adequate and well planned recreation areas. Pressures on Minnesota's parks are already startlingly evident with a camper increase of 600 per cent from 1954. The issue in park planning is one of financing needed expansion. A number of eastern states have had to launch multi-million dollar bond programs to meet demands. In Minnesota park planners hope to achieve a \$7 million expansion program in ten years without going into debt. Can it be done? The legislature has been asked to consider various ways to accomplish this, including an increase in driver license fees earmarked for parks. A study of how to maintain and increase pleasant and plentiful state parks and a campaign for them might be an especially enjoyable League crusade.

### 5. RETIREMENT PLANS

A thorny but much neglected area of government action is that of pensions for persons in public employment. In Minnesota we have seen the growth of literally dozens of separate funds, each applying to a special segment of public employees. Major plans are those of the

State Employees Retirement Association (SERA), Teachers' Retirement Association (TRA), and Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA). In addition there are separate plans for game wardens, for state highway patrolmen, and many other plans for employees of local units of government, mainly policemen (26 funds) and firemen (21 funds). Most of these plans are regulated by legislative act. Most of them are different as to amount of employee contribution, amount of public tax contribution, benefits to be paid, age at which payments shall begin, size of deficit in the fund, etc.

In a few cases, notably in SERA and increasingly in TRA, a combination plan is in operation, with the employee being covered both by Social Security and the retirement association to which he belongs. Several major controversial areas which could stand some LWV scrutiny are these: Should more of the plans be coordinated with Social Security? Should any new plans be established for special segments of persons in public employment (for example, school administrators)? Should some system be established which would pool all the plans into one? Should there be a moratorium on extension of further benefits until financing of each fund has been improved? Some of these questions might form a basis for League action.

### 6. CIVIL DEFENSE

The nation's present civil defense structure places the state in a key position of providing leadership. In 1951, Minnesota established a Department of Civil Defense which now has a comprehensive survival plan. Much needs doing for the plan to be effective in the event of disaster. Some examples of new legislation needed to bolster the plan are: 1) require all new public construction to provide shielding from fallout; 2) require existing public buildings to be modified for fallout protection; and 3) exempt from local real estate taxes improvements made on private building for fallout protection.

A Leaguer looking at civil defense plans will turn to an interesting area dealing with government structure—the need for civil government to retain control before, during, and after an attack. Constitutional Amendment No. 3 on this fall's ballot is one step in providing continuity of government at state and local levels. Further legislation, implementing the amendment, should detail the lines of succession in public offices. Another point important to continuity of government is preservation of certain records such as vital statistics, high-

way plans, school records, and all laws. This work has been financed in only a limited way in Minnesota.

State civil defense authorities claim that effectiveness of the total program rests on involvement and support of the entire community. They believe it requires more public education than is now being financed by the legislature.

### 7. CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

Despite the fact that members of the LWV have known for years that the best and cheapest method of revising an outmoded constitution is via a constitutional convention, most of the rest of the citizens of this state, and particularly the legislators, have disregarded our "wise" teachings on the subject. It seems safe to predict that they will continue to do so. Nevertheless our commitment to the real need for constitutional revision, as well as our status as an action organization, require that we do more than sit in an ivory tower, waiting for a convention which may never materialize. If our aim is really to achieve an adequate constitution, we have two possible courses of action.

The first approach would be to continue, or even step up the pressure for a convention, hoping to prod the legislature into proposing a continuing flow of amendments. This is essentially what we have been doing for several sessions with some degree of success. This method has the disadvantage, however, of leaving us with little influence in the proposing phase of the amendment. Once the legislature is adjourned, we only survey the amendments and decide whether to oppose, support or take no part in their passage.

Our other approach might be to say, "A constitutional convention is the best method, but our real objective is to get the Constitution revised. If the only way that this can be done is via the amendment process, then let us press vigorously for amendments in the order in which action seems most urgently needed."

A dozen years have passed since the Minnesota Constitutional Commission made recommendations for change in our Constitution. Since then the judiciary, local government, highway, and executive articles have been partially or extensively revised. The sections which the Chairman of the Commission, Lloyd M. Short, considers to be most urgently in need of attention now are reapportionment, length of session, and the debt article. He also feels that there is merit in continuing to whittle away at the outmoded sections despite the fact that it is hard to stir up a great deal of interest in them.

From 1946-1958, 22 amendments were proposed and 11 were adopted. The Constitution *is* being revised. Should we accelerate the pace and play a more active role in seeing that good amendments are proposed by changing our own outlook on constitutional revision?

### 8. HUMAN RIGHTS

In 1959, several bills were introduced in the legislature to amend the Fair Employment Practices law: two bills to broaden the discrimination factors to include age and marital status; one to extend the jurisdiction in public accommodations and urban redevelopment projects; one to permit the inclusion of photographs in job applications; and one to forbid discrimination in the sale or rental of publicly assisted housing. All of these bills died in committee. None of the bills fell within the purview of League study or consensus on FEPC. Since this was a Continuing Responsibility, no expanded study or consensus was proper and no stand was taken.

Two areas of human rights are often mentioned as Program suggestions. The first is housing. In 1957, a legislative interim commission on housing and segregation practices was charged with investigating discrimination in the sale and rental of housing accommodations. The act creating the commission "declared the right to equal opportunity for adequate housing accommodation a civil right in this state." It was demonstrated beyond doubt that this right is not enjoyed by our minority families and that besides shelter, job opportunities and educational facilities are concomitantly affected. The commission report states, "No one who appeared before the commission contended that discrimination did not exist."

The problem is particularly acute at present since large numbers of urban non-whites have been or will be displaced by freeway and redevelopment projects. More than 1,000 non-white families are already thus affected, and this number will at least be tripled. While compensation awards are sufficient to permit the purchase or rental of other housing, non-whites are frequently unable to do so when faced with discrimination.

The Indian problem is another frequent Program suggestion. Indians in Minnesota, numbering about 18,000, are caught in a vertical shifting of responsibility between the town, county, state, and national government, and are our most depressed minority group.

Integration of Indians into the white community is complicated partly by the fact that their culture differs from the European civilization which has been intro-

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MRS. LOUIS ODE .....Editor

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duced into their country. It appears that the state government will have to play a larger role in the readjustment of our Indians, respecting their cultural heritage, and at the same time, according them the privileges of other citizens.

## 9. TAXATION

Taxation as an issue is hardly fading. It becomes more important with each legislative session and it may again find a place on the League agenda. When measured in terms of percentage of income, Minnesota's tax level ranks eighth from the top in the nation. Per capita income in Minnesota is below the national average, while state and local public expenditures are higher than the national average and than in neighboring states. The three major categories of expenditures are education, highways, and welfare, accounting for 80% of the total. Expenditures for education make the difference between Minnesota and the national average.

Perhaps one approach to this vast, technical, and complicated field would be to take on just one vital segment of it. The politically "hot" areas are apparent to anyone who reads the newspaper. They are the sales tax and withholding of the personal income tax. The *Report of the Governor's Tax Study Committee of 1956* lists many other areas that need public scrutiny: the property tax and assessment system; other aspects of personal income tax; corporate income tax; taxation of iron ore; gross earnings taxes; insurance premiums tax; tobacco and alcoholic beverages taxes; highway user taxes; and inheritance and gift taxes.

Of these, the *Report* has this to say about the first: "The personal property tax is generally considered to be the sorest point in our tax structure . . . (it is) the most deficient major element of the Minnesota tax system, not only in terms of its inequity in structure and enforcement, but also in its discriminatory impact on industry and agriculture."

A different look at the problem of taxes could be taken long-range. Clearly, public services are virtually impossible to cut. It would be unlikely that any savings effected by more efficient use of the tax dollar would materially reduce the tax burden. This is particularly the case with local units. The time may be imminent when the state legislature must choose between granting local governments the power to levy non-property taxes which will bring in substantial revenue, or force local governments to rely on the state for ever increasing grants-in-aid or a share in more state-collected taxes.

League history in studying taxation has been marked by inability to reach agreement. The fact that the members of the Governor's Committee presented a unanimous report, although starting from widely differing points of views, indicates that agreement may now be possible in the LWV.

## 10. EDUCATION

Financing and directing public education at all levels is a heavy and broad responsibility of state government. As conscientious citizens in a democracy, Leaguers naturally want to respond to measures that will ensure a sound educational system.

How to finance a "uniform" system of public schools is the knotty question in elementary and secondary education. Local school district property tax sources never seem to yield enough income. Because local districts must have state aid and because the methods of apportionment are complex, the formulation of aid programs receives continuing attention from the legislature. It also received League scrutiny more than ten years ago. Some reduction in the number of different types of aid has been achieved, but some basic questions remain unsettled.

Consolidation is another continuing issue and is related to fiscal problems. Educators agree that for good, adequately financed schools there are floor and ceiling on the number of pupils in a district. It is desirable that a 12-year elementary and secondary program be maintained in each district, rather than having separate districts for elementary schools. Though Minnesota has reduced its number of districts from 7,600 in 1947 to 2,300 in 1959, we are still far from reasonable goals. One expert suggests 250 or fewer districts. Legislative emphasis has been on voluntary action for district consolidation. Is swifter action needed?

In higher education, the key development of recent years and for the future is that more people want more education. In the next 15 to 20 years, enrollment in Minnesota colleges, public and private, may double. Existing facilities are over-crowded now; some areas of the state do not have college programs easily available; and the supply of well-trained college teachers is not adequate. With the changing situation in higher education, there is much talk of the "roles" of the three types of public institutions—the University, the state colleges and the junior colleges—and their relationship to each other.

The University is an institution of broad scope, providing many services and extensive research in addition to its strictly instructional function. State colleges were provided for by the first Minnesota legislature to edu-

cate teachers. Today's five state colleges continue in this function but have added liberal arts programs. The growth in importance of public junior colleges, or community colleges, is a new development in higher education all over the country. There are nine such colleges in Minnesota.

Fiscal questions overlie all the other considerations in higher education as in other areas of government. Responsibility for financing higher education is not as clearly defined as for elementary and secondary schools. One must begin with such basic questions as: Just what is the state's responsibility for educating beyond secondary school? How much of the burden should student tuition bear? Does anyone who wants higher education have a right to it?

## 11. JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

Minnesota was an early entry into the field of delinquency prevention and youth rehabilitation, its Youth Conservation Commission having been founded in 1947. A study made two years ago by the National Probation and Parole Association found that the YCC program had deteriorated and could not help itself. The problem originates in the many local communities which have no treatment facilities. Judges are faced with two alternatives: to parole risky cases, without having parole officers to handle them; or to send offenders who may not belong there to Red Wing (boys) or Sauk Centre (girls). The usual choice is the latter. Result: hopeless overcrowding at both institutions, and later, too many parolees for each YCC parole officer.

The 1959 legislature created a new Department of Corrections, under a single commissioner, merging the YCC with the Division of Corrections and the Board of Parole and Probation. It also provided for juvenile court probation services, supported by state aid, in every county.

Both corrective and preventive measures are still needed in Minnesota. Commissioner of Corrections Will C. Turnblade points out that our "open" institutions (Red Wing and Sauk Centre) cannot handle the tough, sophisticated 16-18 year-olds; separate institutions are needed. He also suggests psychiatric out-patient treatment, dependent upon more local reception centers and increased staff. The Minnesota Association of Juvenile Judges asks for more regional facilities. Only Ramsey and Hennepin counties now have adequate detention centers.

## 12. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Since the passage of the 1958 Home Rule Amendment, local government laws are receiving new atten-

tion from the legislature. Plans have been made for review of several proposals by the 1961 legislature, but it is extremely doubtful that all will be acted upon even if the legislature does not bog down in controversy over them as it did in 1959.

Legislative consideration will probably concentrate in three areas.

City charter laws: The League of Minnesota Municipalities recently agreed to seek changes in present "home rule" charter laws which would involve permitting election, rather than appointment, of charter commissions; a simpler method of initiating and accomplishing some charter amendments; and several more administrative changes.

Home rule for counties: Look for some interesting proposals from the legislative interim commission which was appointed to "study the organization, function and structure of county and township governments, particularly any changes necessitated or suggested by the Home Rule Amendment ratified in 1958."

Metropolitan government: Two metropolitan government bodies already exist. One operates through county cooperation on mosquito control; the other has a broader base and functions as the Metropolitan Planning Commission. Undoubtedly more metropolitan coordination is in the offing—probably in the field of sewage disposal and water supply.

One proposal suggests a metropolitan service district with power to act in such fields as public transportation, tax equalization and assessment, and law enforcement, as well as mosquito control, planning, water, and sewage. It has met opposition from suburban supporters of local autonomy.

Some other proposal may come from the legislative interim commission studying laws relating to "Cities, Villages and Urban Towns" which has been appointed to give special attention: to means of coordinating services; to problems created by existence of so many separate governmental subdivisions; and to laws relating to incorporation, annexation or detachment.

There may be needed some modification in the new commission which hears petitions for incorporation of property into villages, and for detachment or annexation of property to municipalities.

Sent to Grace Wilson

From <sup>Grace</sup> D. D. Anderson  
for her information



2807 Hayes St. N.E.  
Minneapolis 18, Minn.  
March 9, 1960

1961

Dear League member,

We send you herewith three items:

- (1) A brief summary of what transpired at the second meeting of the group of League women who wish to see a civil rights item included on the Current Agenda at the 1961 convention of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.
- (2) A fact sheet adopted by the group; please be sure to file this for future reference.
- (3) Plans for one more meeting before fall, to be held on April 12th, in the reception room of the First Unitarian Society, whose address is 900 Mt. Curve Ave., Minneapolis. Please mark it on your calendar and plan to attend.

On Monday, January 25th, the civil rights group met at the home of Alpha Smaby (Mrs. A. J.), at 1531 E. River Road, Minneapolis. Edith Hatch (Mrs. Lloyd A.), St. Paul Area Co-chairman, presided. Annette Hughart was elected secretary; in her absence Josie Johnson (Mrs. Charles) acted as secretary. Three other co-chairmen were elected, as follows:

Helen McMillan (Mrs. K. K.) of Austin  
Elizabeth Zumwinkle (Mrs. Robert) of St. Cloud  
Opal Gruner (Mrs. John W.) of the Minneapolis area

Our treasurer, Katy McWatt (Mrs. Arthur) reported that we have \$25.00 in the treasury, including a \$10.00 contribution from Mrs. Harold Field, Sr. A bill of \$2.94 for mimeographing and postage was allowed.

A committee headed by Bonnie Hutchens (Mrs. John D.) of Bloomington and consisting also of Miss Eleanor Salisbury, Dorothy Dosse (Mrs. Frank), and Esther Wattenberg (Mrs. Lee) submitted a draft of a letter to be used to enlist the support of League members throughout the state. It was accepted with one or two minor additions, and is enclosed with this letter under the title, "Why We Favor a Civil Rights Item for the 1961 Agenda of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota."

Ethyl Young (Mrs. Basil), who was unable to attend the meeting, reported by telephone that we now have a list of approximately 150 names of League members whom we hope to contact. About half of these are in the Twin Cities and the others are out-state. We hope to build up the list to at least 300 names.

Other out-state contacts were suggested by those present at the meeting. It was decided to send a letter to about twenty prominent out-state League members, asking for their support and for the use of their signatures to be attached to the letter which will later be mailed to the entire list.

Maxine Goldenberg (Mrs. K. S.) reported that she and Marion Watson (Mrs. Harold) had met with the state board and had requested that the state League send out information regarding the amendments to FEPC that had been proposed at the 1959 session of the Legislature. Mrs. Dorothy Anderson, State League President, replied in a letter that the board had decided that "publishing material in the civil rights field for the information of its members, was not within the League's authority or program field." She offered two areas in which the group may be of service:

- a. "The board has plans for a publication which will both update our present Continuing Responsibilities and explain some of the activities in these fields in the 1959 Legislature.
- b. Stimulation of state program suggestion by something like a lively issue, in which we give some background on an assortment of fields in which the League might make a state program choice at convention. Here any research and writing your committee might do would be a tremendous value to us."

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Mrs. Hatch and Mrs. Gruner met twice during February. They telephoned and wrote letters to Mrs. McMillan and Mrs. Zumwinkle, both of whom agreed to accept co-chairmanships.

Mrs. Hutchens' committee is being asked to continue as a Research and Writing committee, and to submit for consideration at our next meeting one or more proposed wordings for a civil rights item to be proposed for the 1961 convention. This committee will also be asked to prepare material

for the two projects outlined in Mrs. Anderson's letter. Any of you who would like to work on research and writing, or to contribute ideas and suggestions should contact Bonnie Hutchens, Tuxedo-8-3671.

It was decided to call one more general meeting this spring,

on APRIL 12th

Place: The reception room of the First Unitarian Society, 900 Mt. Curve.

Both Mrs. McMillan and Mrs. Zumwinkle expect to come to the Twin Cities to be with us at that time. We hope that you will all turn out and will bring new members.

Mrs. Marion Watson has agreed to undertake to find at least one League member in each St. Paul League unit who will try to persuade her unit to ask for acivil rights item on the 1961 Current Agenda.

One or two persons are needed to do the same thing for Minneapolis.

The enclosed "fact sheet" and a short covering letter have been sent to 24 out-state League leaders, asking for their endorsement. The letter was signed by the four co-chairmen, the secretary and the following members of our group who were formerly members of the state board.

Dorothy Dosse (Mrs. Frank), Minneapolis  
Mary Evenson (Mrs. Howard C.), Minneapolis  
Doris Guthrie (Mrs. Donald), White Bear Lake  
Florence H. Livingston (Mrs. H. H.), Minneapolis  
Elaine Loucks (Mrs. L. W.), White Bear Lake  
Winona Lush (Mrs. Phillip B.), Excelsior  
Mary Mantis (Mrs. Homer), St. Paul  
Alicemay Watson (Mrs. Dennis), St. Paul  
Ethyl Young (Mrs. Basil), Wayzata

As yet we have not had the time to talk directly with each person on our mailing list of more than 100 names. You can greatly assist us and save telephoning time if you will fill out this blank and mail it back to us:

Do you support the effort to have a civil rights item included on the 1961 League Current Agenda? \_\_\_\_\_

Will you attempt to interest your own unit in suggesting that this item be included in their recommendations? \_\_\_\_\_

Check any committee on which you would be willing to help:

\_\_\_\_ Research and Writing Committee  
\_\_\_\_ Telephone Committee  
\_\_\_\_ Mimeographing and Mailing Committee  
\_\_\_\_ Organization Committees

Your League unit number is \_\_\_\_\_

Please list on the back of this sheet suggestions of other League members (either Twin City or out-state) who might be interested, giving addresses, including zone number, and telephone numbers and League unit number if possible.

Money will be needed for postage, mimeographing, etc. So far, ten members have contributed \$25.00. Additional modest contributions will be welcome.

We shall look forward to seeing you on April 12th.

Sincerely yours,

*F. L. Hughart*  
Mrs. F. L. Hughart

P.S. We take this occasion to express appreciation  
To Edith Hatch, for contributing the cost of long distance telephone calls to Austin and St. Cloud.  
To The Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota, for giving us the use of their mimeograph machine and stencil-cutting equipment on two occasions.  
To Mrs. Kenneth Larson, secretary of Mr. Hatch, for doing the beautiful multilith job on "Why We Favor a Civil Rights Item for the 1961 Agenda of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota."



2807 N. E. Hayes  
Minneapolis 18, Minnesota  
March 9, 1960

Dear League member,

This letter is being sent to a score of League women who have been recognized leaders in out-state Leagues. It comes from a group of about forty League members living within the Twin City metropolitan areas (including some members and former members of the Minneapolis, St. Paul, and state boards) who, after careful consideration, are of the opinion that it would be desirable for the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, at its 1961 convention to include a civil rights item on the current agenda. Our reasons are set forth in the enclosed skeleton fact sheet.

We should like to mail the fact sheet, together with a covering letter, to 300 or more League members throughout the state, and we should like to be able to include your signatures, together with names from the Twin City area.

It is our purpose to reach as many Leagues and League units as possible and to make this a true grass-roots movement. If each person contacted will seek to interest her own unit, to contact women in other units, if possible, and to send us names for the mailing list, we can do an effective education and organization job. Please let us hear from you--your opinion and suggestions. Do you want more detailed information at this point? We want this to be a two-way interchange of ideas.

We hope that you will be willing to cut off the blank at the bottom of the page and send it to us with your signature.

Very sincerely,

Edith Hatch (Mrs. Lloyd A.), St. Paul	)	
Elizabeth Zumminkle (Mrs. Robert), St. Cloud	)	Co-chairmen
Helen McMillan (Mrs. K. K.), Austin	)	
Opal Gruner (Mrs. John W.), Minneapolis	)	

Dorothy Dosse (Mrs. Frank), Minneapolis  
Mary Evenson (Mrs. Howard C.), Minneapolis  
Doris Guthrie (Mrs. Donald), White Bear Lake  
Florence H. Livingston (Mrs. H. H.), Minneapolis  
Elaine Loucks (Mrs. L. W.), White Bear Lake  
Winona M. Lush (Mrs. Phillip B.), Excelsior  
Mary Mantis (Mrs. Homer), St. Paul  
Alicemay Watson (Mrs. Dennis), St. Paul  
Ethyl Young (Mrs. Basil), Wayzata

Annette (Mrs. F.L.) Hughart

-----  
(Please cut this off and mail to Mrs. Frederick Hughart  
2807 Hayes N.E., Minneapolis 18, Minn.)

You may use my signature for the letter urging consideration of the idea that a civil rights item should be included on the agenda of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota at its 1961 convention.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

My League unit is \_\_\_\_\_

(number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
League

WHY WE FAVOR A CIVIL RIGHTS ITEM FOR THE 1961 AGENDA  
of  
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

Next spring the League of Women Voters of Minnesota will adopt a current agenda for 1961-63. Many League members throughout the state have expressed an interest in further study of civil rights in Minnesota, with particular emphasis on fair housing for minorities. We should like to share with you some of the reasons for this interest in a state League study of civil rights.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota has a history of study and action in the civil rights field. As you know, one of the principles of the League is "Protection of minority groups against discrimination." With this principle as background, the League in 1949 adopted for its current agenda "The League will make a study of civil rights in Minnesota." In 1950-1951 this current agenda item was changed to "The League will work for a greater understanding of civil rights in Minnesota and for legislation to correct discrimination." The item remained the same for 1951-1952. This topic on the current agenda was changed in 1952-1953 to "The enactment of a fair employment practices law and other legislation to correct discrimination."

The 2-year program adopted by the League for 1953-1955 made support of an "Employment on Merit Act" a continuing responsibility. In the 1955 legislature League members saw their study and action of the past six years bear fruit with the passage of a Fair Employment Practices law. Support of a Fair Employment Practices Commission has remained a continuing responsibility of the League from 1955 to the present. If you attended the state convention last spring you know that the state board recommended that this item be removed from the continuing responsibilities. However, interest of League members in FEPC was so great and arguments from the convention floor against the recommendation were so strong that the convention voted overwhelmingly to retain support of FEPC as a continuing responsibility.

An Interim Commission of the state legislature studied the problem of discrimination in housing from 1957 to 1959, and issued a detailed and informative report. Two bills were proposed in the 1959 legislative session. Both of these bills would have broadened the powers of the Fair Employment Practices Commission to include protection of minority groups against certain types of housing discrimination. The League of Women Voters, although support of the Fair Employment Practices Commission was one of our continuing responsibilities, was unable to act in any way, or even to study this proposed legislation, because we had not studied discrimination in housing.

We think this history clearly shows long standing League interest in studying and acting in the field of civil rights. As you can see, however, the League job was only partially finished with the passage of a Fair Employment Practices law. We should now turn our attention to other areas of civil rights, and at the moment the most urgent is discrimination in housing.

You probably know something of the problems of minorities in the metropolitan areas: the difficulties they have in moving from areas of blight into newer areas of the cities, and particularly into the suburbs. The matter cannot be dealt with by city ordinances because they do not cover the suburbs. Less well known is the fact that throughout the state there is housing discrimination against Indians, Negroes, Japanese Americans, and other minorities. Many times men and women from these groups have been offered positions as doctors, teachers, newspapermen, and so forth in some of the smaller cities and towns of Minnesota, only to find that no one would rent or sell them a home.

An act of discrimination anywhere in this state has state-wide, nation-wide, and international implications.\* "President Eisenhower (has) stated (that) . . . every action that deprives individuals, because of their race or color, of rights and privileges enjoyed by others, in some measure burdens the nation in the world struggle. . . . Few aspects of American life are more highly publicized throughout the world than racial discrimination. Communist anti-American propaganda plays tirelessly on the racial theme."

It is important to note that many states have already moved ahead in this critically important area of fair housing for minority groups. Fourteen states have enacted legislation dealing with the prohibition of discriminatory practices. For these reasons we believe that the League of Women Voters of Minnesota should include a civil rights item in its 1961-1963 current agenda.

It is an urgent problem.

It is a state-wide problem.

It is unfinished League business.

---

\* From "Where Shall We Live?"

Report of the Commission on Race and Housing - 1958  
University of California Press



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

FIRST ROUND OF PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS

1961



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## HUMAN RIGHTS

"Human Rights - stressing housing and Indian affairs."  
(Austin LWV)

"A Study of Human Rights, including such topics as Housing Discrimination and the Indian Problem." (Duluth LWV)

"A Study of Human Rights of minority groups including housing, education and job opportunities." (Moorhead LWV)

"The study of housing discrimination against minority groups in the state of Minnesota, with a view to support of legislative action which will alleviate such discrimination."  
(Rochester LWV)

"A study of discriminatory practices against minority groups."  
(Roseville LWV)

"A study of human rights with emphasis on housing discrimination and on Indian rehabilitation."

"A study of refusal to render service or sell goods to minority groups with a view toward legislative control."

"A study of human rights with emphasis on housing discrimination and Indian problems." (St. Cloud LWV)

"League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study problems of insuring human and civil rights for all the people of Minnesota with particular reference to housing and employment." (St. Paul LWV)

"A study of human and civil rights as pertaining to the people of Minnesota." (Silver Bay LWV)

"The League will work to insure human and civil rights for all the people of Minnesota with particular reference to housing and employment." (LWV of Excelsior, Hopkins, Minneapolis, North St. Paul, St. Cloud, St. Croix Valley, St. Louis Park and White Bear Lake)



## TAXATION

"Minnesota Taxes - should taxes be increased on the local level or should there be increased state aid." (Austin LWV)

"A limited study of Taxation such as : a - Sales Tax, b - Personal Property Tax on Business, c - Equalization of Taxes." (Duluth LWV)

"A study of the state tax structure, with emphasis on sources of revenue and more efficient methods of collecting, equalizing, and distributing tax money." (Golden Valley LWV)

"Taxes: A reevaluation of the tax structure in Minnesota - based on real estate and property taxes - and its effect on state and local economic development and government financing." (Mound LWV)

"A Study of the property tax and assessment system; with emphasis on evaluation of property for State aid to education." (New Richland LWV)

"Study of taxation with emphasis on releasing dedicated funds and new and more lucrative methods of investing state money." (Owatonna LWV)

"A study of state revenue and expenditures, potential sources of revenue and new tax proposals." (Roseville LWV)

## STATE GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION

"Reorganization of state government to promote efficiency and eliminate overlapping of functions." (Austin LWV)

"Reorganization of State Government, its costs under our system with our high taxation, with a resultant interest in the study of taxation in order to find out where the money is going, and where there could be some saving made." (Edina LWV)

"A plan to consolidate state governmental departments and to place related functions under logical departmental jurisdiction." (St. Cloud LWV)

"Reorganization of the state government: a study with a view to support of legislation which would facilitate economy and efficiency in the state government." (West St. Paul LWV)



## CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

"Continuation of Constitutional Revision." (St.Cloud LWV)

"Constitutional Revision: a study of the problems of constitutional revision so that the Minnesota League of Women Voters could take a more active part in the proposing of amendments." (West St. Paul LWV)

"The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will work for continuing revision of the State Constitution, with particular reference to areas not heretofore considered by the League, and including areas in which no real revision effort has been made." (E.Salisbury, Unit 30, Mpls LWV)

5

## W E L F A R E

"Welfare - greater efficiency in assistance programs."  
(Austin LWV)

"The LWV of Minnesota will study the possible need for governmental machinery to coordinate or revise the state's administrative departments with special emphasis on the department of welfare."  
(North St. Paul LWV)

"Evaluation of existing public welfare programs." (St. Cloud LWV)

"A study of legislation on health and public welfare."  
(St. Louis Park LWV)

"The Minnesota Welfare Program that we may become familiar with the state laws and machinery in order to appraise their efficiency as related to cost, service and need." (Wells LWV)

## E D U C A T I O N

"Education - what should the state's financial responsibility be for higher education and how should facilities be organized geographically." (Austin LWV)

"Financing and Control of Public Schools in Minnesota."  
(Moorhead LWV)

"The LWV of Minnesota will undertake a study of the financing and directing of public education at all levels with special reference to state responsibility thereto." (North St. Paul LWV)

"A study of the financing and directing of public education on all levels." (St. Louis Park LWV)



## INDIAN PROBLEMS

"Study on State Indian Problems." (Battle Lake LWV)

"A study of the Minnesota Indian citizen with emphasis on areas of welfare, education and economic opportunity."  
(Excelsior LWV) (Granite Falls LWV) (Hopkins LWV)  
(Maplewood LWV) (Owatonna LWV) (White Bear Lake LWV)

"Civil Rights with Emphasis on the Indian Problem."  
(Red Wing LWV)



## CONSUMER CREDIT

"Consumer Credit - full disclosure law as to interest rates and carrying charges." (Austin LWV)

"A study of consumer credit with an aim toward future legislation."  
"A study of the form and nature of consumer credit protections."  
"A study of existing consumer protections with a view toward the need for consumer representation in the state government."  
(St. Cloud LWV)

"A study of Consumer Credit." (Silver Bay LWV)

## W A T E R

"A study of Minnesota Water with emphasis on pollution and conservation of supply." (Minnetonka Village LWV)

"Water Conservation with emphasis on enforcement provisions regarding pollution and watersheds." (West St. Paul LWV)

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

"Juvenile Delinquency - correction facilities (housing and treatment)."  
(Austin LWV)

"Study of juvenile delinquency." (St. Cloud LWV)



## CIVIL DEFENSE

"Civil Defense - necessity for education and legislation."  
(Austin LWV)

"A study of the possibility of closer relations between  
civil defense programs and policies and civic organizations  
and clubs." (St. Cloud LWV)



## MISCELLANEOUS

"Ore Resources - necessity for economic aid to the ore industry area."  
(Austin LWV)

"State Hospital Program - facilities and administration." (Austin LWV)

"A study of public employees' retirement funds in Minnesota."  
(Roseville LWV)

"Support of state-wide mandatory registration of all eligible voters."  
(St. Cloud LWV)

"The League of Women Voters will work for the registration of all  
citizens of voting age within the state of Minnesota." (St. Cloud LWV)

"The League of Women Voters shall work for uniformity of election  
laws within the state of Minnesota, with emphasis on (a) requirements  
for voting, and (b) registration procedures." (St. Louis Park LWV)

"A study of the traffic safety factors with regard to (a) law  
enforcement; (b) licensing of drivers; (c) highway planning; and  
(d) citizen education." (St. Louis Park LWV)

"A study of the development of a greater metropolitan plan of  
government, in contrast to the development of individual suburbs  
with separate governmental units, as an answer to such problems as  
(a) law enforcement and (b) water usage." (St. Louis Park LWV)

"League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support improvements in  
controlling legislation in the area of ethics in government  
including: lobby regulation, conflicts in interest and campaign  
financing and practices." (St. Paul LWV)

PROGRAM AREAS SUGGESTED IN THE FIRST ROUND OF SUGGESTIONS  
BY LOCAL LEAGUES, BUT NOT SPECIFICALLY WORDED:

JOINT TICKET OF GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR--Austin  
HUMAN RIGHTS--Bloomington, Brooklyn Center, Edina, Jackson,  
Richfield  
TAXATION--Battle Lake, Bloomington, Moorhead, Richfield  
WATER--Bloomington, Duluth, Roseville  
WELFARE--Brooklyn Center, Duluth, Edina, Moorhead, Owatonna,  
Red Wing  
ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT--Brooklyn Center, Tichfield, St. Anthony  
VOTER REGISTRATION--Duluth  
CIVIL DEFENSE--Duluth, Red Wing, Roseville  
STATE GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION--Duluth, Red Wing, Roseville  
CONSUMER CREDIT--Duluth, Edina, Red Wing  
JUVENILE DELINQUENCY PROBLEMS--Edina, Moorhead, Richfield  
EDUCATION--Edina, Bloomington, Red Wing, Roseville  
INDIAN PROBLEMS--Moorhead  
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION AND REVISION--Moorhead, Roseville  
INDUSTRIAL DIVERSIFICATION--Moorhead  
STATE INSTITUTIONS--Moorhead, Red Wing  
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT--Roseville  
MENTAL HEALTH--Roseville  
FINANCING MUNICIPALITIES--Roseville  
METROPOLITAN CONSOLIDATION--Roseville  
CORRUPT PRACTICES--Roseville  
STATE RIGHTS--St. Anthony  
COUNTY GOVERNMENT--St. Anthony