



League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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-Leadership Conference on Civil Rights-

MEMORANDUM CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION'S
1963 CIVIL RIGHTS BILLS

This memorandum is intended to be of assistance to the groups considering what techniques to utilize and how best to work together to bring about the passage of the Administration's civil rights bill. The memorandum outlines the significant provisions of the bill and makes clear that what the President is asking from Congress is as moderate and restrained as it is necessary to the future of our country; it also sets forth some of the legislative problems in both the House of Representatives and the Senate and some of the immediate target areas for mobilization of opinion.

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WHAT THE PRESIDENT'S CIVIL RIGHTS BILL CONTAINS

The President's civil rights program has been introduced in the House by Congressman Celler as H. R. 7152 and in the Senate by Senator Mansfield and 45 others as S. 1731. It is the most comprehensive civil rights bill ever to receive serious consideration from the Congress of the United States.

The "Civil Rights Act of 1963" contains eight titles relating to voting rights, public accommodations, school desegregation, Community Relations Service, Civil Rights Commission, non-discrimination in Federal programs, Commission on Equal Employment Opportunity, and miscellaneous provisions.

TITLE 1 -- Voting Rights

The first title relates to voting rights. It repeats, without substantial change, the Administration's voting bill sent to Congress in February of this year. It would:

- (1) Prohibit the application of any standard, practice or procedure in determining qualifications to vote in any Federal election different from those applied to individuals similarly situated who have been found qualified to vote by State officials.
- (2) Prohibit denial of the right to vote in Federal elections because of immaterial errors or omissions in registration applications or other acts requisite to voting.
- (3) Require literacy tests given in connection with registration to vote in Federal elections to be in writing or transcribed.
- (4) Establish sixth-grade education as a presumption of literacy in connection with any test given to qualify to vote in a Federal election.
- (5) Amend the 1960 Civil Rights Act to provide that, when less than 15 per cent of potential colored voters are registered in the area, the court shall issue orders entitling qualified Negro applicants to vote and may appoint temporary referees to take applications for registration pursuant to its order.
- (6) Provide for expeditious handling of voting cases in which the United States is plaintiff.

These voting provisions constitute improvements in the operations of the 1957 and 1960 Civil Rights Acts.

But it is readily apparent that they are both moderate and limited and wholly within the spirit of the 1957 and 1960 Acts. Indeed, the first four provisions noted above apply only to Federal elections, although there would appear to be constitutional authority to apply them to state elections as well.

The first two provisions, although primarily declaratory of existing constitutional and statutory requirements, will help persuade some reluctant judges by making the constitutional requirements clear.

The requirement that literacy tests be in writing or transcribed would make proof of discrimination simpler in many instances.

The provisions relating to a presumption of literacy based on a sixth grade education would make arbitrary denials by state officials more difficult and, when any arbitrary denials are challenged in court, this provision would take effect and create a presumption of literacy in favor of the person applying to register.

The provision for court orders entitling qualified Negro applicants to vote when the complaint alleges that fewer than 15 per cent of the Negroes of voting age in the area involved are registered to vote, makes possible meaningful interim relief during the customary lengthy litigation period. And the provision for temporary voting referees, despite the failure to date of the referee provisions of existing law, may nevertheless help persuade some judges to move ahead on this front.

The provision for expediting voting cases brought by the United States cannot make hostile judges act quickly, but it can be useful in some situations and will expose those judges who deliberately slow down judicial proceedings in voting cases.

There are stronger proposals in the voting field than those contained in the Administration bill. One of these, for example, is the Federal registrar system proposed by the Civil Rights Commission in 1959 and rejected by the Congress in the 1960 legislative battle. Administrative action of this character can provide mass enfranchisement which the court-centered programs never can accomplish. Yet every legislative advance cannot be obtained at once and the Administration proposals outlined herein will reenforce the 1957 and 1960 laws and give the Department of Justice additional tools in this important area.

TITLE II -- Public Accommodations

This is the most important title in the Administration bill. It would establish the right to service free from discrimination in places of public accommodation and business establishments. Included would be (i) any hotel, motel, or other public place furnishing lodging to transient guests from other states or traveling in interstate commerce, (ii) any motion picture house, theater, sports arena, stadium, exhibition hall or other public place of amusement customarily presenting entertainment which moves in interstate commerce, (iii) any retail shop, department store, market, drugstore, gasoline station, restaurant, lunchroom, lunch counter, soda fountain, or other public eating places, if goods and services are provided substantially to interstate travelers, or goods held out to the public have moved in interstate commerce, or the activities or operations substantially affect interstate commerce.

Those refused service would have the right to sue for preventive relief. In addition, the Attorney General could enter suit on receipt of a written complaint, if the complainant is unable to bring suit because of financial reasons or fear of reprisals. If successful, a complainant would be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees.

Before filing suit, the Attorney General would be required to refer the complaint to the Community Relations Service provided under Title IV of the Bill and to any appropriate state agency with authority to prohibit the discriminatory practice.

The bill relies on both the Fourteenth Amendment and the interstate commerce clause for its constitutional base, although the Attorney General in his June 26th testimony before the House Judiciary Committee relied almost exclusively on the interstate commerce power. Some Republicans prefer the Fourteenth Amendment route and it would probably be well to urge that the bill continue to be predicated on both constitutional bases. Added emphasis on the Fourteenth Amendment would also obviate the necessity of drawing lines between interstate and local facilities as does the Administration bill.

The President has acted decisively in meeting the problem of discrimination in places of public accommodation and this provision is certainly the most significant provision of the Administration's civil rights package. By the same token, it will inevitably engender the most opposition in Congress and the most efforts to compromise it.

One such compromise proposal is already being discussed -- namely, a limitation on the size of the establishment covered by the provision. It is true that a small rooming house in which the owner resides, the so-called "Mrs. Murphy rooming-house," retains many of the characteristics of a home and there may be some reason for protecting the right of privacy of the home-owner. But there is no privacy in a store or restaurant or entertainment facility open to the public and, all such facilities, large or small, should be covered by the bill.

Even more dangerous - far more dangerous - is the compromise being suggested in some quarters to take the enforcement provisions out of the bill and leave it as entirely voluntary through conciliation. But conciliation is only valuable if there is ultimate enforcement behind it and anything that deprives the Administration package of an enforceable public accommodations title would be a tragic defeat for civil rights. What happens on the effort to take the enforcement provisions out of the public accommodations title will be a measure of success or failure for the Administration's bill.

TITLE III -- School Desegregation

Under this title, technical assistance, grants and loans would be made available to school boards to meet problems arising out of school desegregation or the adjustment of racial imbalance in schools.

The more important part of this title authorizes the Attorney General to institute civil actions for school desegregation upon receipt of complaints and a determination that the complainants are unable to institute legal proceedings.

As the Attorney General made clear in his testimony on June 26th, this title "would thus combine a program of aid to segregated school systems, which are attempting in good faith to meet the demands of the Constitution, with a program of effective legal action by the federal government these programs would smooth the path upon which the Nation was set by the Brown decision. The school desegregation title is second only to the public accommodations title in furthering civil rights in America.

As in connection with the voting provisions of Title I, the moderate and limited nature of the President's proposals on school desegregation should be noted. The school desegregation provisions contain no requirement that school districts begin compliance with the Supreme Court's decision in 1963 as was promised by the Democratic Platform and as is contained in S. 772 and H. R. 1766, the so-called Clark-Celler bills. Furthermore, the Attorney General is limited in the Administration's bill to bringing suits only where complainants are unable to institute legal proceedings, a restriction on his freedom in school desegregation cases which was not included in the 1957 grant of authority to act in voting cases. Finally, it should be noted that there is no provision in this title or elsewhere in the bill for an across-the-board Part III authorizing the Attorney General to bring suit, not only in school cases, but in all situations where persons are denied their constitutional rights because of race, color, religion, or national origin. Such a provision (which could be offered as an amendment to the President's bill) would not only reach hospitals, libraries, parks and other recreational facilities, public buildings, etc., not covered by the Administration's bill, but would also give the Attorney General power to enjoin state interference with peaceful protests as in Birmingham and elsewhere. But moderate and limited as Title III is, it is a major step in the direction of integrated schooling and a vital and necessary part of any civil rights package.

TITLE IV -- Community Relations Service

A new agency, Community Relations Service, would be established under this title of the bill. Its purpose would be to help resolve problems arising from discriminatory practices by bringing together the people of influence in both races.

Such an agency would serve a useful function if the bill is finally enacted provides strong protection for the constitutional rights of minority group citizens. It could in no way be considered as a substitute for enforcement authority. As a complement to enforcement authority, it should have real value.

TITLE V -- Civil Rights Commission

Title V would extend the life of the Commission on Civil Rights for four years and authorize it to serve as a national clearing house to provide information, advice, and technical assistance to private and public agencies.

Because of its fine record, the Commission is deserving of support for extension and additional grant of authority. It could be hoped, however, that the agency could be made permanent in order to free it of the necessity of constantly revising its plans and to give it the stability it needs to conduct a continuing operation.

TITLE VI -- Withholding of Federal Funds

This title would authorize withholding of Federal funds from any program or activity that receives Federal assistance, directly or indirectly, by way of grant, contract, loan, insurance, guaranty, or otherwise, when discrimination is found in such a program or activity.

Again the moderate nature of the President's civil rights bill is evidenced by this provision. Many persons believe that the President already has the authority to withhold federal funds from any program or activity in which unconstitutional discrimination is found. Nevertheless, the President has asked for this authority from Congress, apparently to buttress with Congressional approval what he desires to do in this area. While the President would probably be in a position to act on his own

initiative, this provision would add Congressional support for his action and should have the full support of all the groups. Federal funds contributed by all the people should never be utilized in a way that discriminates against some of the people who contribute those funds.

TITLE VII -- Equal Employment Opportunity

Under this title, the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity would be reestablished as a Commission and given statutory authority under which to operate.

The authority proposed should be granted. The present Committee is handicapped by limited funds and manpower. It is also apparent that it is reluctant to exercise its full authority because of fear of Congressional reprisals. A Congressional grant of authority with subsequent financial support could considerably strengthen the agency in fulfilling its mission.

The enactment of this provision is not, however, a substitute for national FEPC. Such a law with strong enforcement procedures, as promised in the 1960 Democratic platform, is one of the most necessary legislative requirements. Several bills establishing and FEPC are pending in Congress. The adoption of one of these as an amendment to the Administration's civil rights bill should be strongly supported and the President's message to Congress gives his stamp of approval to this effort.

TITLE VIII -- Miscellaneous

The last title authorizes necessary appropriations and provides a separability clause in the event any provision of the bill is held invalid.

DEPARTMENT Governor's Human Rights Commission

STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO : Steering Committee Members
FROM : Mrs. Wright W. Brooks
SUBJECT: Steering Committee Meeting

DATE: September 6, 1963

The next meeting of the Steering Committee of the Minnesota Women's Committee on Civil Rights will be held on Tuesday, September 17th. The meeting will be held in room 205 in the Midway YMCA, 1761 University Avenue. It will begin at 12:00 noon with the serving of lunch; and the charge per person is \$1.50.

The minutes of the August 29th Steering Committee meeting will be mailed to you by Wednesday of the coming week. At the same time we will send you specific information as to a tentative date and place for the workshop which was proposed at the last meeting.

GB:gs

The meeting of representatives of women's organizations in Minnesota was called to order by Mrs. Wright W. Brooks, Chairman of the Governor's Human Rights Commission, on Tuesday, August 13th at Mr. Joe's Restaurant in St. Paul.

Mrs. Brooks began the meeting by introducing Mr. James Rice, of the Governor's staff. Mr. Rice read a message from the Governor and briefed the group on the state administration's civil rights program. Mr. Rice then introduced Dr. Quigley, Commissioner of Administration, who informed the group of his department's role in carrying out the law banning discrimination by employers who hold state contracts.

Mrs. Brooks then gave a summary of the suggestions made by President Kennedy at the recent White House meeting for the 300 women leaders called to the White House by the President. The following areas of concern were spelled out by the President.

1. School drop-outs; drop-outs contribute to a cycle of unemployment, delinquency and crime. School boards, P.T.A. groups, and other interested organizations should develop concrete programs to deal with this problem.

2. Civil rights legislation. Women's organizations should urge their congressmen and senators to support the President's civil rights measure. The measures are now being conducted in the House Judiciary subcommittee and the Senate Commerce committee. Write to members of these committees and urge their support of the bills without watering them down.

3. Community bi-racials committees. Women's organizations should help their community organize bi-racial committees. If a community already has such a committee, then women's organizations should lend their cooperation wherever necessary.

4. Participation of more minority group women in women's organizations. Women's organizations have a responsibility to seek out women from minority groups and involve them in their programs.

5. Mrs. Brooks informed the group that the most pressing area of concern is that surrounding the need for civil rights legislation. She urged the representatives and their organizations to support the August 17th civil rights demonstration in the state capitol area. She stated that the demonstration is being sponsored by the NAACP and other responsible organizations.

Along with this recommendation there was a suggestion that as many groups as possible send delegates to the National March for Freedom and Employment, scheduled for August 28th in Washington. She said that chartered planes are leaving from the Twin Cities; and that the Minneapolis and St. Paul Urban Leagues, and Mr. Chivers of the Minneapolis NAACP, could furnish information about the National March upon request. It was also revealed that organizations unable to send representatives to the August 28th march can provide financial help. At the close of her remarks Mrs. Brooks asked for suggestions from the floor on what can be done in Minnesota. The following is a summary of the comments from the floor.

1. The Minneapolis School Board has begun working on the problem of school drop-outs. The women's organizations should urge their communities and school boards to begin a similar program.
2. Assist schools in conducting remedial reading programs as reading difficulties are among the primary causes of school drop-outs.
3. Women's organizations should invite people from minority groups to speak before their local organizations, and regional and state gatherings. This will help more people to secure better information about minority groups. Contribute time and money to such organizations as the NAACP, Urban Leagues, and so forth.
4. Support the program proposed by Mayor Naftalin of Minneapolis, wherein he is calling for the establishment of a bigger and stronger Mayor's Commission on Human Relations.
5. Women's organizations should work to support the Minnesota Fair Housing Law.

Mrs. Joseph Nathanson, the second Minnesota representative at the White House meeting, suggested that women's organizations set up a steering committee similar to the National Women's Committee for Civil Rights.

Mrs. Joseph agreed with this recommendation and suggested that this steering committee could circulate information from the Governor's Office and other human relations organizations as a means of helping the organizations know what is being done in human relations in this state.

Mrs. Nathanson said that a member from each women's organization should be chosen to serve on this steering body.

It was the consensus of opinion that Mrs. Nathanson's suggestion be adopted; and Mrs. Brooks offered the services of the Governor's Human Rights Commission in helping to establish the steering committee and to assist it in carrying out its efforts.

Mrs. Joseph suggested that members from the women's organizations could assist the Commission staff in carrying out their clerical duties involved in the steering committee work.

Mrs. Brooks adjourned the meeting at 3:00.

(1963)

The Steering Committee of the Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights met on Thursday, August 29th in conference room 500 of the Centennial Office Building with Mrs. Wright W. Brooks presiding.

The following persons were in attendance:

1. Mrs. Lloyd Hatch, Minnesota United Church Women
2. Mrs. Catherine M. McVeigh, St. Paul Y.W.C.A.
3. Mrs. James Gibbs, Women's Service League of the Minneapolis Urban League
4. Mrs. E.V. Bergstrom, St. Paul Archdiocesan of Catholic Women
5. Miss Edna Schwartz, Minnesota Federation of Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.
6. Miss Lyla Niederbaumer, Minnesota Nurses Association
7. Mrs. Harold Watson, Minnesota League of Women Voters
8. Mrs. Marjorie Johnson, Minnesota League of Women Voters
9. Mrs. Charles Hynes, President's Women's Committee on Civil Rights *Council of Jewish Women*
10. Mrs. Tobey Lapakko, Consultant, St. Paul AFL-CIO Trades & Labor Assembly

Mrs. Brooks started the meeting by reviewing the major decisions reached at the August 13th meeting of the various group representatives. The next item on the agenda was a brief description by each person present of her organization's activities with respect to civil rights matters.

1. Miss Schwartz: The Federation is beginning to work on the problem of school drop-outs. The Federation is also exploring the possibility of involving more minority women as members of individual affiliated groups.

2. Miss Niederbaumer: The organization did have a special committee on human relations problems but it has been dissolved. One of its major concerns now is that of interesting more young women from minority groups in pursuing nursing as a career.

3. Mrs. Hatch: The United Church Women are carrying out the Assignment Race Program, a project with all emphasis placed on study and action in the field of race relations. They have sent a resolution to the Minneapolis School Board recommending that race be a factor in school zoning. The state organization has urged local units to support civil rights legislation.

4. Mrs. Bergstrom: The primary focus of this group for the current year is on the supporting of civil rights legislation. They have decided to send a delegate to an upcoming conference on race relations and/or civil rights.

5. Mrs. Lapakko: St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly is beginning a community wide program on apprenticeship training. The emphasis here is not on any particular major group; but it is designed to encourage young people in all racial and religious groups to give greater consideration to vocational training.

6. Mrs. McVeigh: Cited Y.W.C.A. policies of opening its membership roster and program activities to all groups. The emphasis for this year is on Race Inclusiveness and school drop-outs.

7. Mrs. Gibbs: The Women's Services League is involved in a cultural enrichment program at Lincoln Junior High School. The program involves youngsters from a culturally deprived area and it is patterned after New York City's Higher Horizons Project.

8. Mrs. Watson indicated that the Minnesota League of Women Voters is still engaged in its Indian study item.

9. Mrs. Johnson: The League is continuing its work on some of its past civil rights items.

Mrs. Watson: The national president has sent a memo to all leagues urging that they study the national civil rights problem. Local league members are urged as individuals to support President Kennedy's civil rights program. The league has supported the Fair Employment and the Fair Housing Law and it favors amending the State Law against Discrimination to include public accommodations and ~~sex~~ discrimination. Mrs. Watson reported that the 59 local leagues in Minnesota would like to help the Governor's Human Rights Commission and the State Commission Against Discrimination carry out the citizens committee program.

After the reports on individual organizations activities the steering committee went into a general discussion of possible areas of concern. Mrs. Gibbs suggested that the matter of advertising deserves some attention and she said that women's organizations could be quite helpful in urging sponsors to use more Negro models in their T.V. commercials.

Miss Niederbauer suggested that another area of concern should be that of encouraging more young Negroes to take advantage of the current nursing recruitment programs. She said that there is a very small number of Negro nursing students in Minnesota. Miss Schwartz informed the group that the Business and Professional Women's Club had assisted with the recent Indian Guide program; and that the women's organizations might have a special function with respect to the young ladies involved in the program. Miss Schwartz also suggested that women's organizations could assist in the planning and implementation of career days for high school students. Mrs. Hymes raised the question of whether the Women's Committee should be active at the local level. She suggested that local level activity may be necessary if the committee is to be effective. Mrs. Brooks suggested that it may be possible to have members of the affiliating organizations and units work at the local level. Mrs. Lapakko pointed out that a periodic newsletter would help affiliated organizations know what the others are doing at a given time. It was the consensus of opinion that the committee could serve a useful function as a clearing house for information. In answer to a specific question from Mrs. Hymes, Mrs. Brooks said that the staff of the Human Rights Commission would be at the groups disposal.

Other general discussion areas were as follows:

1. The role of the high school counselor in encouraging minority youth to secure adequate preparation and the need for special human relations courses or conferences for counselors.
2. The alleged higher turn-over rates among teaching personnel in minority neighborhoods
3. Defacto school segregation
4. The transferring of pupils to other schools as a means of securing a sound racial balance in the school system.
5. Human relations orientation programs for teachers.
6. The need for special courses in the curriculum for future teachers who might work in lower socio economic areas.

At the conclusion of the meeting it was suggested and agreed upon that the Women's Committee should hold an all day orientation conference for the purpose of acquainting its members with human relations problems and with the programs of those organizations working to solve the problems.

Silber
Mrs Lund
Gryph
Mr Donald

Alex B Olson
6th Dist.

Angus Birkbeck
Lund
Joseph McDonald
Wiederhauser
Schwartz

Randy Puss Puss
Brackett

Nov 14 - Thurs.

Ambassador Hotel

SCAD
Urban League

Employment
Housing
Education
Community Relations. - Panel.

{ Anti discrimination
laws

Study
alone -
drop in mail
for me -
Program for Oct. 4-5

{ Kinds of activities that
women organizations are
involved in

DEPARTMENT Governor's Human Rights Commission

STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO : Steering Committee Members
FROM : Mrs. Wright W. Brooks
SUBJECT: Steering Committee Meeting

DATE: September 6, 1963

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GB:gs

September 24, 1963

Governor's Human Rights Commission
Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota

Gentlemen:

Mrs. William Whiting, the League's representative on the Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights, will be out of town for the next month. During that time, Mrs. Harold Watson of the state Board will handle all communications directed to Mrs. Whiting from the committee.

Mrs. Watson's address is:

2140 W. Hoyt Ave.
St. Paul, Minnesota

Sincerely,

Mrs. Robert Thompson
Organization Secretary

MEETING: The Steering Committee of the Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights

PLACE: Twin City Motor Hotel

DATE: October 16, 1963 - 12 Noon

PRESENT: Mrs. Mary Ann Stehr, St. Paul Dispatch - Pioneer Press
Mrs. Alice S. Onque, Hallie Q. Brown Community House
Mrs. Mary Jo Richardson, Governor's Human Rights Commission
Mrs. James L. Gibbs, Women's Service League of the Minneapolis Urban League
Mrs. E.V. Bergstrom, St. Paul Archdiocesan of Catholic Women
Mrs. Tobey Lapakko, Consultant, St. Paul AFL-CIO Trades & Labor Assembly
Mrs. Charles Hymes, President, Women's Committee on Civil Rights
Miss Lyla Niederbaumer, Minnesota Nurses' Association
Mr. Cal Walton, Executive Director, Governor's Human Rights Commission

The meeting was opened by Mrs. Gibbs who stated that 132 announcement and applications for the one-day conference on Civil Rights in Minnesota: "Problems, Programs & Prospects" Thursday, November 14, 1963, were sent to organizational leaders throughout the state. Many of these groups received 10 announcement-registration forms for their respective organizations.

Mrs. Bergstrom stated that invitations should also be sent to the other five Catholic Diocese throughout the state. She will phone the addresses to Mr. Walton, telephone - 221-2158.

Mrs. Richardson, Chairman of the sub-committee for planning the workshop reported on her committee's activities. Committee members included Mrs. Hymes, Mrs. Onque, Mrs. Marian Watson, Mrs. L. Hatch, Mrs. J. Gibbs. She stated one additional workshop has been included since the last meeting, Administration of Justice. A list of the women chairmen, recorders and overview speakers were given to the group.

1. Administration of Justice
Overview Speaker - Mr. Calvin Walton
Chairman - Mrs. Daniel Klas
2. Community Relations
Overview Speaker - Mr. Michael A. Gaines
Chairman - Mrs. Russell Lund
3. Education
Overview Speaker - Professor Ayers Bagley
Chairman - Mrs. Charles Hymes
4. Employment
Overview Speaker - Mr. Sam H. Jones
Chairman - Dr. Margaret Andrews
5. Housing
Overview Speaker - Mr. James C. McDonald
Chairman - Mrs. Harold Watson

October 16, 1963

It was decided that the chairmen of the five groups should formulate questions which she will in turn use to guide the discussion. She could review the five points of the President's program in relation to the specific topic. The audience could then make statements in relation to these questions and each group may conclude with some suggested programs for action. It was emphasized that these would have to be in the form of suggestion since most representative participants would not be able to speak officially for their organizations at that particular time.

Mrs. Gibbs stated that the National Co-Chairmen, Mrs. Horton and Mrs. Harris, were unable to attend as the key speakers but that Miss Shirley Smith was recommended highly. She has had a variety of experiences that indicate she would be an exceedingly well qualified person to give this key-note address. She will particularly emphasize what the President of the United States sees as the role for women throughout the nation.

The Steering Committee is charged with engendering enthusiasm for the conference and it is hoped they can personally contact a number of their respective groups and encourage them to attend.

The registration for the one-day conference is \$4.00 which will include a \$2.25 roast chicken luncheon; the balance of the money will be used for coffee and the expense of the speaker and it was decided that the overview speakers and resource people would be given lunch for their contribution to the program.

Twelve volunteers are needed for the registration tables. Mrs. Richardson will provide two; Miss Lyla Niederbauer - two; Mrs. Onque - two; Mrs. Peter Zimmerman - two.

Four volunteers are needed on November 8 to help fold and stuff envelopes. Mrs. Bergstrom - two; Mrs. Marion Watson - two.

It was felt that the participants of the conference should be given specific ideas as to what they can do as a follow-up to this one-day conference. After much discussion it was decided that suggestions regarding the President's five projects should be developed.

- 1) The Enactment of Civil Rights Legislation - Mrs. Richardson
- 2) The Surveys of Civil Rights Problems in the Community - Mrs. Onque.
- 3) The Reduction of High School Drop-outs - Mrs. Hymes.
- 4) The Integration of Community Organizations
- 5) The Establishment of Leadership Training Programs for Women Civic Volunteers.

If you wish to send your suggestions to Mrs. James Gibbs, her address is 2209 Sheridan Avenue South, Minneapolis 5, Minnesota.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held on Friday, November 8th at the Midway YMCA at 12 Noon or 2:00 p.m. to explore in greater detail post-conference plans.

LN/e

DEPARTMENT Governor's Human Rights Commission STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO : All Steering Committee Members

FROM : Mrs. James L. Gibbs, Co-Chairwoman

SUBJECT: November 14th Workshop

DATE: October 30, 1963

The Civil Rights Conference sponsored by the Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights will take place in two weeks on Thursday, November 14, 1963. As you know, the members of the Steering Committee and the Conference Committee have devoted much thought, time, and energy in planning this first project. The committee has secured Governor Karl Rolvaag as the luncheon speaker and Miss Shirley B. Smith, Executive Director of the National Women's Committee for Civil Rights, as the morning keynote speaker. In addition there will be about 30 outstanding professional and lay human relations persons serving in various capacities on the afternoon workshops.

In spite of the thorough planning and excellent publicity of the conference, the registrations have been quite slow up to this point. Since your organization is a member of the Steering Committee, we are anticipating a favorable response from your units throughout the state. However, we would appreciate it very much if you would stimulate greater interest in the conference among your units in the Twin City Metropolitan area, for this area should be our greatest source of conference delegates.

Since several women's organizations have indicated a desire to send delegates only to the morning or afternoon sessions of the conference, we have decided to permit delegates to participate in part of the conference at a cost of \$2.00 per person. This fee will not include the luncheon, but will be applied to the overhead costs of the conference.

Please advise us if you will need additional registration forms. Reservations for luncheon must be made no later than Tuesday, November 12, 1963.

Thank you for your continued support of this conference.

JTG:gs

MINNEAPOLIS TRIBUNE,

Dec. 11, 1963

Women's Groups Urged to Act on Civil Rights

By JUDITH HOLSCHLAG

Minneapolis Tribune Staff Writer

The Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights, formed in August, to "co-ordinate and inform" on women's civil rights activities in the state, had trouble Tuesday deciding where co-ordinating and informing end participation in such a group.

THE ONLY project the committee has undertaken so far was a conference on civil rights attended by more than 200 women Nov. 14. A report on the conference



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MEETING: The Steering Committee of the Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights

PLACE: Midway Y.M.C.A.

DATE: Tuesday, December 10, 1963 - 12:00 Noon

PRESENT: Mrs. Wright W. Brooks, Chairman - Human Rights Commission
Mrs. James L. Gibbs, Co-Chairwoman - Women's Service League of the Minneapolis Urban League
Miss Judith Holschlag, Minneapolis Star & Tribune
Mrs. H. S. Wousen, Jr., Minnesota AAUW
Mrs. Peter Zimmerman, National Council of Jewish Women, Minneapolis Station
Mrs. Leonard Savitt, B'Nai B'Rith Women
Mrs. E.V. Bergstrom, Council of Catholic Women
Miss Judy Radloff, St. Paul Pioneer Press & Dispatch
Mrs. Lloyd Hatch, United Church Women (Minnesota)
Mrs. Earle Onque, Hallie Q. Brown Community House, St. Paul
Mrs. Harold Watson, League of Women Voters of Minnesota
Miss Viola Kanatz, State Commission Against Discrimination
Mrs. Mary Jo Richardson, Human Rights Commission
Miss Lyla Niederbaumer, Minnesota Nurses Association
Mr. Cal Walton, Executive Director, Governor's Human Rights Commission

Mrs. Brooks called the meeting to order. Letters from some of the participants and national congressmen regarding the one-day workshop were passed around for information.

1. Mrs. Gibbs read a letter from Mrs. Douglas Horton and Mrs. William Beasley Harris which urged individuals and groups to wire or write their congressmen and encourage them to sign the discharge petition which would enable the Civil Rights Bill to be taken from Congressman Howard W. Smith's Committee to the floor for discussion. The letter emphasized that signing the discharge petition did not commit the congressmen to support the bill but it did ensure that the bill would receive consideration. A discharge petition requires 218 signatures.

It was felt that despite Senator Smith's present willingness to have the bill brought out before his committee sometime in January, Congressmen should be encouraged to sign the discharge petition in case Senator Smith has a change of plans. It was reported that the B'Nai B'Rith Women, Council of Catholic Women, and National Council of Jewish Women, Minneapolis Station have already wired their congressmen. It was reported that Congressmen Alec Olson, Odin Langen and Anchor Nelsen were the individuals that at present were not committed to supporting the bill.

Considerable discussion developed around the question of whether the steering committee should send a telegram in its own name or whether the telegrams should originate from the respective groups represented.

A small committee will be appointed to formulate some basic policies regarding the Steering Committee's authority since there are presently no stated policies or procedures.

It was recognized that the Steering Committee is an organization of organizations each bound by its own policies and that no one individual can act for her organization without taking the issue back to her respective group. If any of the organizations represented have some stated policies regarding their relationships with other groups on vital issues, these statements should be forwarded to Mr. Walton.

The present Minnesota reaction the Civil Rights Bill, as determined by mail to Minnesota congressmen and Senators, seems to be 60% against and 40% for the bill.

2. Mrs. Gibbs reported on the one-day conference "Civil Rights in Minnesota: Problems, Programs and Prospects" which was held on November 14, 1963 at the Ambassador Motor Hotel in Minneapolis. 211 people attended the luncheon; a total of 275 people registered. The conference was considered to be very successful in its endeavor to inform. Subsequently four women from Mankato have indicated they wish to start a citizens' group for the purpose of furthering the President's 5-point Civil Rights Program. The Rochester and North Suburban St. Paul groups plan to hold conferences on the same topic and are even planning to use some of the same speakers. This conference did engender interest in over 100 new people. Equality buttons were sold at the conference. The keynote speaker, Miss Shirley Smith, was very effective in her presentation and use of examples to illustrate the great need for facing up to the specific problems.

The Financial Report of the Conference is as follows:

Total Receipts		\$966.00
Expenses:		
Ambassador Motor Hotel.	\$595.00	
National Women's Committee on Civil Rights.	252.87	
Meyers Printing Company.	25.00	
	<u>872.87</u>	
Expected cost of mailing program material to participants.	28.00	
Balance.	<u>65.13</u>	
	<u>\$966.00</u>	<u>\$966.00</u>

3. Mrs. Onque moved that a Secretary-Treasurer be appointed. This motion was seconded and passed. Miss Lyla Niederbaumer was appointed to this position.

4. Equality buttons can be ordered from Mr. Walton's office. The buttons will be sent and a charge of \$1.00 will be made for the buttons - 50¢ is kept in the State and 50¢ forwarded to the National Committee. Orders can be received without immediate payment.
5. It was announced that the National Jewish Council for Women in Minneapolis with the Y.W.C.A. is sponsoring a program on "Community Action for Youth" on January 27. There are 26 groups participating. This will be held at the University of Minnesota Mayo Auditorium and it deals primarily with the school dropout problem. A \$3.00 charge, including lunch, will be made. The public is invited.
6. Mrs. Gibbs stated that at a previous meeting we had discussed briefly the possibility of leadership ability and integration. Many minority women lack confidence to join the many groups that are open to them. Many women are active in their churches but are afraid to go outside of their own group.

Topics that would possibly be included in the Leadership Training Program are:

- a) Parliamentary procedure and the follow-through in discussion
- b) Membership Dues
- c) Fund raising.

It was also felt that this Leadership Training Program might start with a broader context, of human relations training in general. The possibility of Mrs. Dorothy Height who will possibly be speaking in the Twin Cities assisting with developing this Leadership Training Program was mentioned.

It was felt by some that it would not be difficult to find women who would be interested in such leadership training; others felt that it would be possible if the program participants went to the community centers that these people now live in, particularly community houses in Minneapolis and St. Paul that serve the Mexican, Negro and Indian minority groups.

Considerable discussion developed regarding whether it should be the function of the Steering Committee to sponsor specific activities, such as Leadership Training Programs for specific areas or whether it was the Steering Committee's responsibility to bring these ideas back to their respective groups and urge action at the local levels. It was stated that perhaps the Steering Committee could sponsor some demonstration units that would then in turn be utilized by local groups.

A small committee will be appointed to clarify the role of the Steering Committee in relation to the Leadership Training Programs and to develop specific suggestions as to what is the intent and content of the leadership programs.

The Governor's proclamation declaring December 10-17 as Human Rights Week in Minnesota was read.

The date for the next meeting was tentatively set for Tuesday, January 14, 1964.

LN/e



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

O F T H E U N I T E D S T A T E S

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

Mrs. Robert J. Phillips, President

Zip Code 20036

January 8, 1964

Mrs. William W. Whiting, President
League of Women Voters of Minnesota
State Organization Service
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis 55, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Whiting:

Mrs. Phillips has asked me to thank you for your letter which will be very helpful to her when she meets with the Steering Committee of the National Women's Committee on Civil Rights on January 13. Let me say that the League has reminded Miss Smith and members of the steering committee that the function of the group was to be a clearing house and specific objections have been voiced to the wording of some of the communications emanating from the committee. Suggestions have been made and (we thought) accepted but we believe that the January 13 meeting will provide a better opportunity for making the League position on these matters clear. In the meantime if you could hold off on any action in relation to the Minnesota committee until after January 13 Mrs. Phillips would appreciate it very much. We shall get in touch with you as soon as possible after that date.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Guyol

Mrs. Alexander P. Guyol
Public Relations

MAG:hsh

P.S. Miss Smith was full of admiration for the Minnesota League and the able women who helped lead the Minnesota Civil Rights Conference. She and the committee's leaders (Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Horton) place high value on the League's association with the committee.

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Mrs. Alexander A. Treuhaft
Shaker Heights, Ohio

MEETING: Steering Committee for the Minnesota Women's Committee on Civil Rights

PLACE: The Minneapolis Y.W.C.A.

DATE: Tuesday, April 14, 1964 - 12:15 Luncheon

PRESENT: Mrs. Gladys Brooks, Co-Chm - Human Rights Commission
Mrs. James Gibbs, Jr., " - Women's Service League of the Minneapolis Urban League
Mrs. Elton L. Johnson - Minnesota League of Women Voters
Mrs. Cal Kersten - AFL-CIO Community Services Representative
Miss Thyra Lund - Minneapolis Urban League
Mrs. Franz Gayl - Minneapolis League of Women Voters
Mrs. Lloyd Hatch - United Church Women, Minnesota
Mrs. L.D. McLauchlin - D.F.L.
Mrs. George Chapin - Women's Suburban Democratic Club
Kay Kling - YWCA - Minneapolis
Mrs. John Brackett - YWCA - St. Paul
Mrs. Harold L. Holden - YWCA - Minneapolis
Mrs. Leonard Savitt - B'nai B'rith Women
Mrs. James R. Lynn - U.C.W.
Mrs. E.V. Bergstrom - Council of Catholic Women
Mrs. F.M. Snodgrass - Council of Catholic Women
Mrs. Philip Giese - Minneapolis Council P.T.A.
Judy Radloff - St. Paul Pioneer Press
Judy Vick - Minneapolis Tribune
Judith Holschlag - Minneapolis Star
Miss Lyla Niederbauer - Minnesota Nurses Association

Mrs. Mary Winikaitis (Telephone Number TA.2-0671) spoke to the group regarding the Mississippi Summer Project which is sponsored by SNCC - Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. This organization is active in the south but has very little funds to finance it. There is no counterpart in the northern part of the United States. Mrs. Winikaitis stated that this particular group is planning to conduct "freedom schools" for voters this summer in Mississippi and this would be for 10th, 11th and 12th grades. It would include such things as remedial reading and other needs, as well as political participation. Students, teachers, technicians will be helping with this program. It will be similar to the Peace Corps.

Each group was encouraged to offer any help that they can give on behalf of their organization or as individuals. She stated that Dick Gregory is giving one month of his time toward the support of SNCC. He will be at the Minneapolis Auditorium May 10th. Tickets are now on sale - \$1.50, 2.50, 3.50 and 4.50.

Following this announcement Mrs. Brooks opened the meeting by asking all participants to introduce themselves. She then briefly reviewed some of the activities underway at the present time.

Mrs. Snodgrass as Chairman of the Leadership Group in St. Paul reported on their present plans of holding four meetings on successive Monday evenings from 8-10 P.M. The topics will be presented at the meetings are as follows:

Monday, May 4th - "The Importance of Women in Today's Society" - Mrs. James L. Taylor, Program Director of Hallie Q. Brown House.

Monday, May 11th - "How to Function Effectively in an Organization" - Mrs. Charles Hynes, Chairman of Governor's Committee on Status of Women.

Monday, May 18th - "A Look at St. Paul" - Mrs. Arthur McWatt, Mayor's Minority Housing Committee, and League of Women Voters.

Monday, May 25th - "Where Do I Fit In?" - Miss Jean Ohman, MSW, Executive Director of St. Paul's YWCA.

Mrs. Savitt, the Chairman of the Minneapolis Leadership Group, stated that their plans have not progressed as far as the St. Paul group. They plan to meet four Wednesdays in May and these meetings will be held at the YWCA in Minneapolis.

It was stated that the leadership training is for any individuals from the target areas or any other women who have not had the opportunity to participate in this way.

The next newsletter from the Civil Rights Group should be mailed the early part of May.

Mrs. Brooks stated that the National Committee would be pleased to receive any contributions from the groups present since they were operating on a very limited budget and that the coordinating they can do on the national level is exceedingly helpful to the state groups. The National Newsletter was also available for distribution.

Mrs. Gibbs introduced Mr. Robert Williams who is Executive Director of the Minneapolis Urban League. He spoke on Human Relations Problems in Education. Some highlights of his talk are as follows:

Most teachers are not prepared to teach in low income, under-privileged areas.

Apathy is the greatest block in moving ahead.

In Minneapolis and St. Paul there is a 2.4% negro population. Therefore, studies have not been done comparable to other cities and we cannot make as accurate an estimate of our problems. Essentially, however, we have the same problems here in the Twin Cities as are found on the national level.

He stated that Warrington and Maxfield schools have been particularly cited as examples of negro school populations of 90% or more. Other schools that need to be watched are Grant, Hade and Field.

Our housing situation in which negroes live in primarily six areas in Minneapolis and one large area in St. Paul produces the de facto segregation of the schools. He stated the School Board is on record as opposing segregated schools. He stressed that segregation is just as unhealthy for the white race as it is for other minority groups. Since we live in an integrated world, the experiences gained through the school life have an important bearing on adults.

Steps that are being taken to improve the situation -

1. The Warrington School is gradually being phased out and the youngsters will be going to four other schools. Some children will be bussed to other areas and effort is being made to keep the schools from becoming segregated.
2. Upgrading education for underprivileged youth. Some seminars and inservice types of programs are being conducted to assist in this area at the Continuation Center for faculty members. It has been proposed by some that additional incentive pay be given to teachers working in these areas. School needs to be made more meaningful for youngsters who come from homes without books or solo parents or parents who are working. He stressed that even meals in school can be of tremendous assistance for children from such deprived homes.
3. More human relations programs need to be developed in schools - not a one-week push but built into the program on a continuous basis.
4. Minority groups need to be included in the American History, not just a negro history week.

He cited the Saturday Evening Review, April 18, 1964 issue as containing a particularly good article on educational integration.

Ways in which this group can be effective:

First of all developing a concern, becoming knowledgeable of the problems. In Minneapolis and St. Paul we have a better opportunity to do something about the situation since our population is relatively small. Presently more positive mail would be helpful regarding the Civil Rights Bill to our Senators.

Professor Ayers Bagley was unable to be present at this meeting.

Other Announcements: The wife of the President of Tuskegee Institute may be in the Cities the latter part of May and has been asked to speak to this group.

May 14th there is a benefit by the NAACP to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Supreme Court decision. This will be a closed circuit TV program at the Minneapolis Auditorium. Tickets are available through the mail - \$2, 3, 4 and \$5 tickets. They may be purchased through the Minneapolis Spokesman and through Dayton's.

MEETING: Steering Committee for the Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights

PLACE: Inn Towne Motel, Minneapolis

DATE: Tuesday, May 12, 1964 - 12 Noon Luncheon

PRESENT: Mrs. Jewelle Taylor Gibbs, Co-Chm. - Urban League
 Mrs. Gladys Brooks, Co-Chem. - Human Rights Commission
 Mr. Calvin L. Walton (Staff) - Human Rights Commission
 Mrs. John C. Brackett - YWCA, St. Paul
 Mrs. James R. Lynn - United Church Women, St. Paul
 Mrs. Leonard R. Savitt, B'Nai B'Rith Women
 Mrs. Joseph Richardson, Gov. Human Rights Commission
 Mrs. Fred Boott - Minneapolis League of Women Voters
 Beverly Keer - Minneapolis Star
 Medora Petersen - Women's International League for Peace & Freedom
 Kay Kling - YWCA, Minneapolis
 Pat Giese - Minneapolis Council P.T.A.
 Alice S. Onque' - Hallie Q. Brown House
 Rhoda Lund - State Chairman of the Republican Women
 Mrs. Peter Zimmerman - National Council of Jewish Women, Minneapolis
 Miss Lyla Niederbauer - Minnesota Nurses' Association

Mrs. Richardson reported on the St. Paul Pilot Leadership Program. There were 25 people present -- 8 Negroes, 3 Mexicans, and 14 white. There were a number of enthusiastic senior citizens amongst this group, as well as younger women with pre-school children. The climate was essentially very friendly and they discussed how to organize a group. Some of them were interested in organizing a group to eliminate the pigeons which they felt were a health hazard and this involved the question of how to involve new people, how to work with people, how to delegate authority. The second session then revolved around these points and Mrs. Hymes was a very stimulating speaker and following this they broke into buzz sessions.

Mrs. Brackett reported on the Minneapolis Pilot Leadership Program. There were 25 present -- approximately 9 Negroes, 5 Indians and 11 white. There were a few people in the group who seemed to be fairly sophisticated in relation to group activities. The questionnaire that was given to the group indicated that very few, however, were presently serving on committees or as officers. At the end of this first session one of the ladies volunteered to help with the school drop-out problem in a particularly strategic area.

Mrs. Medora Petersen announced that Vera Chandler Foster, wife of the President of Tuskegee Institute will speak at the Unitarian Center, 900 Mt. Curve Ave., Minneapolis, Sunday, May 24th at 8:00 P.M. with a supper and social hour preceding the meeting.

Mrs. Richardson is the editor of the newsletter and all news should be sent to her or to Cal Walton.

Mrs. Gibbs announced that this group had been organized for one year and that the June meeting was to be a report meeting from the various organizations as to what activities they have been doing regarding any of the five points in the President's program. The five points are as follows:

- 1) The Enactment of Civil Rights Legislation.
- 2) The Surveys of Civil Rights Problems in the Community.
- 3) The Reduction of High School Drop-outs.
- 4) The Integration of Community Organizations.
- 5) The Establishment of Leadership Training Programs for Women Civic Volunteers.

Mr. Walton announced that there were many Human Rights Programs being held this summer and the one that he wished to call to the attention of the group was being held at Fisk University, Nashville, June 29 - July 11. It is the 21st anniversary of their first Human Relations Program. The entire expense of the program will be \$80.

The B'Nai B'Rith organization donated \$25 to the Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights.

Professor Ayers Bagley of the University of Minnesota was introduced to the group and spoke on Human Relations Problems in Education. He recommended the book "Public School Segregation and Integration in the North" as being very compact and informative. It may be obtained for one dollar by writing to NAIRO Commission on School Integration, 6 East 82nd Street, New York 28, New York.

Points that he made were as follows:

Separate schools are inferior schools.

Institutions should support ideas. They furnish a means of coming together to facilitate people so that they are prepared to deal with problems that affect their lives. Public Schools were formerly referred to as "Common Schools", all commonly together in one institution.

Statements that the courts have made are ... "Separate education facilities are not equal." "Separation of races with the sanction of law tends to promote inferiority."

Gordon Aldport in his book "Becoming", Yale, 95¢, gave a number of definitions of self. Professor Bagley stated that the courts' decisions are largely based on the self-concept definition of the self-image and the courts have stated that there is damage to the minds of children through segregation. He stressed the need for children to receive positive images and that as children they are gaining their sense of identity through the reflection they receive from the adult world. They achieve to the extent of what is expected of them. He stressed the perceptiveness of children and stated that many high ability children are not going to college because of the limited image they have of themselves.

To correct this image we must provide better models for the children through their school experience. The economic level has as much impact as the race of the individual on the self-image.

Segregation can also occur within a facility. There can be self-segregation. Space itself will not eliminate this. At this point it becomes a curriculum problem and more teachers are needed that are prepared to help in this way. He stated that we may need more research centers of information and coordination. He cited Wayne University as having an effective center of information.

Teachers need to be better prepared; there needs to be continuing inservice programs in public schools. By inservice programs he meant teachers, specialists in intergroup relations, who come regularly to school to discuss with faculty members approaches to problem solving.

NEWSLETTER

Minnesota Women's Committee on Civil Rights
Room 72, State Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Mrs. Wright Brooks

CO-CHAIRMEN

Mrs. James Gibbs Jr.

VOL. I. No. 2

May, 1964

IMMEDIATE ACTION URGENT SAYS LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE ON CIVIL RIGHTS

The National Leadership Conference on Civil Rights urges citizens committed to the cause of civil rights to let their voices be heard in Washington. Although the women's organizations of Minnesota's Committee on Civil Rights encouraged their members to write supporting the bill last November, co-chairmen Mrs. Brooks and Mrs. Gibbs believe we should show our continued support now by letters to the President of the United States, our Senators and Representatives.

Since all of the Congressmen from Minnesota voted for the Civil Rights Bill on February 10, 1964, a letter to these Representatives will let them know we favored their action. Their offices are still receiving mail in opposition, as are the offices of our Senators.

In recent months, anti-civil rights groups have been sending brochures and petitions to people in Minnesota and other states. Much of what is contained in these brochures is misinformation; for example, in a pamphlet entitled "Unmasking the Civil Rights Bill", the charges are made that seniority rights of employees will be destroyed; that the homeowners' rights will be undermined. Yet, the Civil Rights Bill does not even touch upon these two areas. If your organization would find it helpful, the Minnesota Women's Committee has available information on the contents of the bill and the need for each title of the bill. This material may be obtained by writing the Governor's Human Rights Commission, Room 72, State Office Building, St. Paul 55101.

* * * * *

PILOT PROGRAMS IN LEADERSHIP TRAINING SLATED FOR MAY

Member organizations of the Minnesota Women's Committee on Civil Rights will be sponsoring pilot programs in leadership training in May. In St. Paul, the meetings will be at 8 p.m., on the four Mondays, at the St. Paul YWCA, 65 East Kellogg. Highlights of the sessions include:

- May 4th----Opening talks on the role of women in the community---Speaker will be Mrs. James Taylor, Program Director, Hallie Q. Brown House.
- May 11th---Opening talk followed by buzz sessions on "How to Function Effectively in an Organization"----Mrs. Charles Hymes, Chairman of Governor's Status of Women Committee, will be the overview speaker.
- May 18th---Movie on St. Paul called "The Time Is Now" - followed by a look at St. Paul and the needs of its neighborhoods. Mrs. Arthur (Katie) McWatt, League of Women Voters, and recent candidate for City Council, will be the commentator.
- May 25th---Panel discussion on various activities of service in St. Paul. Moderator Miss Jean Ohman, Executive Director of the YWCA in St. Paul, and panel members will discuss "Where Do I Fit In".

Mrs. Leonard Savitt, chairman of the Minneapolis program, announces that their institute will be at 8 p.m., on the four Wednesdays in May, at the YWCA, 12th at Nicollet.

Featured in this series:

- May 6th----Opening talk on the role of women in modern society, or "How to Get Out of the Kitchen". Speaker will be Mrs. Charles Hymes, member of the Minneapolis School Board.
- May 13th---Opening talk, followed by skits on how to be an effective member of an organization, or "How to Get Around Parliamentary Procedure". Miss Kay Kling of the Minneapolis YWCA will open the session.
- May 20th---"How to Participate in the Institutions of the Community" or "How to Be an All-American Minneapolitan", will be presented by Mrs. Wright Brooks, chairman of the Governor's Human Rights Commission.
- May 27th---Panel discussion on "How to Serve the Local Community Most Effectively" or "How to Put New Blood into Old Bodies" will be presented by four Minneapolitans who will discuss the role of women in the Home, Church, School and Community.

* * * * *

TWO KEY EVENTS SCHEDULED IN MAY -- T.V. FREEDOM SPECTACULAR AND DICK GREGORY CONCERT

On May 10th, Dick Gregory and the Freedom Singers will present a program at the Minneapolis Auditorium at 8 p.m. Proceeds of this program will be for the benefit of the Mississippi Summer Project. Tickets range from \$1.50 to \$4.50 and may be obtained from the Dayton's Ticket Offices in St. Paul and Minneapolis.

The Mississippi Summer Project is an attempt to mobilize the resources of persons throughout the nation in overcoming the tragic lack of educational and community services available to Negro citizens in Mississippi. Teachers, religious leaders, legal advisors, students and others will be enlisted in the cause of staffing Freedom Schools, Community Centers, Voters' Registration Drives, and special projects such as the promotion of a Tougaloo College repertory theatre group which is planning to dramatize the experiences of Negroes in Mississippi and America.

* * * * *

On May 14th, the Minneapolis N.A.A.C.P. is sponsoring a FREEDOM T.V. SPECTACULAR at 8 p.m. at the Minneapolis Auditorium. Hollywood MCs for the 2-hour program will be Lena Horn and Steve Allan, and New York MCs will be Ed Sullivan and Sammy Davis Jr. The star-studded cast will include such personalities as Harry Belafonte, Nat King Cole, Marlon Brando, Langston Hughes, Garry Moore, Frederic March, Sidney Petier and Duke Ellington.

The FREEDOM SPECTACULAR commemorates the 10th Anniversary of the 1954 Supreme Court School Desegregation Decision and the proceeds from the program will go to the Education and Legal Defense Fund of the N.A.A.C.P. Tickets range from \$1.50 General Admission to \$5, and are available at Dayton's and the North Star Center in Minneapolis and Field-Schlick in St. Paul.

Special Gold Star tickets at \$10 each will include a party after the show at Minneapolis Capp Towers. These are available at the N.A.A.C.P. office, or may be obtained by calling the chairman at 824-9433.

* * * * *

The new "Minnesota Human Relations" Directory published by the Governor's Human Rights Commission, is available on request at Room 72, State Office Building, St. Paul.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S COMMITTEE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

Room 904 Munsey Building • 1329 E Street, N.W. • Washington, D. C., 20004 • Tel. 783-7071

Co-Chairmen
Mrs. Douglas Horton
Mrs. William B. Harris

Executive Director
Miss Shirley B. Smith

REPORT TO THE ATTENDANTS AT THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CIVIL RIGHTS July 9, 1964

At a recent meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Women's Committee for Civil Rights we reviewed activities and planned ahead until June 30, 1964.

We reiterated our determination not to set up a competing organization but to serve as a clearinghouse and information center for women's groups concerned for civil rights. We welcomed the report from our Executive Director which told us of many activities on the part of individuals and groups determined that this shall be a nation with "liberty and justice for all". We were grateful for the opportunity to represent you in helping to encourage those activities.

It had been suggested that perhaps we should register as a lobbying agency but the Committee agreed that, as a Committee we are not a lobby, as we understand the term. We do all we can to supply information but will not be represented at hearings or take a Committee position on the details of legislation. We remember the restraint of President Kennedy when he asked us to support "where conviction and program permit, all or part of the proposed legislative program on civil rights, especially the public accommodations section." We have an office which can keep us informed about timing of efforts if people associated with us want to express themselves, but we welcome into association with the National

... to create public understanding of our moral responsibilities and to implement the President's Civil Rights Program

Committee women's groups which are interested in working for civil rights even if they cannot support legislation in Congress.

We undertook to provide a budget of \$9000 to cover costs until June 30, 1964. This includes the salary of the Executive Director (at the rate of \$500 a month) and of one secretary for her. The rest includes \$100 a month rental for an office, telephone, postage, supplies for correspondence, and a minimum travel amount. The rental represents an increase of \$35 a month over what we have been paying because Miss Smith has enlisted several volunteers who need more space than was available in the old office.

It seems obvious from the amount of work being conducted that there is a demand for the kind of help the Committee has been giving through its office. Whether or not it can continue to render this service depends on whether or not we can raise enough money to carry on. We have enough in hand to carry us for about one month--as we did when the office was opened last September. Since then some \$5000 has been received and spent!

Can we have the additional \$9000 for the next six months?

Some of the organizations have been most generous. Perhaps you can encourage the ones you know best to make a contribution. Perhaps you can make a gift as an individual. We have not asked for tax exemption. We may be such a short-lived organization that there would not be time to get it. Perhaps the fact that we are so definitely pro-civil rights, making no claim to neutrality in this controversial area, would keep us from receiving it anyway. In any case, any contribution you make would have to be an outright gift. We hope you will want to make it.

We foresee a function to be performed for the next six months. By April, when the Steering Committee meets again, we hope to be able to decide whether or not this particular form of organization is one which should continue. Your judgment on this matter would be a great help to the Steering Committee. Your gifts or lack of them will be a fine gauge of that judgment--but we welcome your letters too.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Mildred W. Horton
Mrs. Douglas Horton

Patricia Roberts Harris
Mrs. William Beasley Harris

January 31, 1964

MINUTES

MEETING: Steering Committee for the Minnesota Women's Committee on Civil Rights

PLACE: Midway YMCA -- Room 207

DATE: February 11, 1964 -- noon

Members present were the following:

Kay Kling
Betty Minor
Marion Watson
Geri Joseph
Shirley Zimmerman
Mary Jo Richardson
Edith Hatch
Mary Parks Lynn
Dode Wonson
Mary Lou Brackett

Jewells Gibbs
Gladys Brooks
Rhoda Lund
Maxine Nathanson
Jonell Morgan
Mrs. E.V. Bergstrom
Judith Holschlag
Mrs. Tobey Lapakko
Mrs. Leonard Savitt
Mrs. Lois Troemel

Call to Order: Following the noon luncheon the meeting was called to order at 12:45 p.m. by the chairman, Mrs. Brooks.

Committee Reports:

A statement from the National Women's Committee for Civil Rights regarding policies and the policy statement prepared by the Minnesota committee were distributed. Mrs. Hatch presented the report.

Mrs. Hatch commented that the national policy states that the committee is to serve as a clearing-house and information center for women's groups concerned for civil rights, but that the committee will not register as a lobby group.

The following changes in the section on Eligibility were made by the group:

1. The word, "directly," was deleted. The revised statement now reads: Organizations that have a membership totally or predominantly women, or have programs related to women which would serve as a vehicle for action.
2. The word, "current," was changed to "continuing." The revised statement reads: Civil rights must be of continuing concern to the organization.

The section on Purposes was accepted as proposed by the committee.

Several questions were raised by committee members regarding the section on Types of Membership. Points discussed included:

1. Should full membership be more completely defined? e.g. should voting and holding office be listed as privileges of full membership?
2. Should the affiliate membership refer to the clearinghouse function only?
3. Mrs. Watson from the League of Women Voters questioned whether the name of the committee could be used in support of a particular issue if all of the organizations belonging to the committee do not support the issue or if the issue is not included as part of the organization's program. She wondered whether specific organizations should support a project rather than the committee as a whole.

Motion: A motion was made, seconded and carried that the section on Types of Membership be referred to the Policy Committee for revision and clarification of active and affiliate membership and also to study whether there is a need for a dues schedule.

Program Committee The report of the Program Committee was distributed to the group with highlights given by Mrs. Shirley Zimmerman.

The Program Committee recommends a leadership training program, which would be a series of six seminar-workshops of two hours each, to begin in April, 1964. Purpose of the series would be to provide women with training in leadership techniques and concepts with the aim of fostering in them self-confidence and personal skills to stimulate them to broaden their interests to the wider community.

The Program Committee recommended that the leadership training series be held as demonstration projects in St. Paul and in Minneapolis. If successful, similar workshops could be held in other areas of the state.

The Program Committee also suggested that the chairman for both the Minneapolis and the St. Paul workshops be a member of the Steering Committee.

The following points were brought out in discussion:

1. One possibility suggested for Minneapolis would be to concentrate on two "target areas"—the Near North Side and a certain area in South Minneapolis. Both are depressed areas with large minority groups.
2. Location of the Seminars—The Minneapolis and St. Paul YWCAS were suggested as possible locations since the YWCA is a member of the National Steering Committee and is interested in fostering civil rights.

Mr. Walton questioned whether women would leave their own area and go downtown to the YWCA. He also pointed out that the YWCA is used to working with middle class people; whereas the settlement houses are used to working with minority groups.

Other committee members expressed the belief that it would be good for the women to leave their neighborhood to go to the YWCA and that the YWCA is a neutral place since some people have negative feelings about settlement houses.

The location will be decided by the local planning committee in each city.

3. It was also suggested that the local committee should plan, evaluate the project and then make plans for continuation.
4. Committee members discussed in some length whether a program such as the leadership training series should be sponsored by the Steering Committee when a number of the organizations who are members of the Steering Committee (e.g. League of Women Voters and AAUW) must get approval from their boards and membership before sponsoring a new program.

It was pointed out that if the series is to be begun in April, planning must start now.

Motion: A motion was made by Mrs. Hatch and seconded by Mrs. Zimmerman that the committee proceed with the leadership training program. The motion carried.

Motion: In regard to the method of carrying out the proposal, Mrs. Hatch moved that the committee accept the report of the Program Committee. The motion was amended to provide that a member of the Steering Committee be chairman of the project with a sub-chairman in Minneapolis and in St. Paul. The amendment to the motion lost.

The motion was re-amended to provide for co-chairmen from the Steering Committee (one for St. Paul and one for Minneapolis.)

The motion as amended was seconded and carried.

Details will be worked out by the local committees.

Announcements: Copies of the "Report of the Conference on Civil Rights" are still available from the office.

The Conference on Religion and Race is scheduled for February 27 and 28. All members of the Steering Committee will receive invitations.

News from the organizations is needed within the next couple weeks for the newsletter.

Organizations were urged to order and encourage the purchase of pins. Order pins from the Minnesota Committee.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held the second Tuesday in March.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

(Mrs.) Lois Troemel
Acting Secretary

TO: Members of the Steering Committee, Minnesota Women's Committee
on Civil Rights

FROM: Jewelle Taylor Gibbs, Co-Chairman

SUBJECT: Report of the Meeting of the Program Committee

The Program Committee (set up under the name Leadership Training Committee, but later changed to include general program planning) of the Minnesota Women's Committee on Civil Rights, met on Tuesday, January 14th at the home of Mrs. Peter Zimmerman, 3843 Glenhurst Avenue, St. Louis Park. Other members present in addition to Mrs. Zimmerman were Mrs. Savitt and Mrs. Gibbs. Miss Kay Kling of the Minneapolis YWCA and Mrs. Joan Morgan of the St. Paul YWCA were also present at the request of the chairman.

The Committee first explored the feasibility of a leadership training program in order to promote one of the five major program areas of the National Women's Committee. It was immediately concluded that this type of project would be best accomplished on the local levels, specifically in the two largest cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis. The committee felt that it would be valuable to outline a general program and then to suggest that members of the Steering Committee delegate local representatives in each city to work out the details according to the specific needs and problems of that city. The local committees would be asked to report back to the State Steering Committee, but each group would be autonomous.

Both Miss Kling and Mrs. Morgan assured us that the YWCA, which is a member of the Steering Committee of the National Women's Committee for Civil Rights, has long been fostering human relations program and would be quite interested in cooperating with our group in both the planning and the implementation of a leadership training program. Miss Kling further suggested that the Minneapolis committee cooperate with Larry Harris, Executive Director of the Youth Development Project, to develop leadership in the "target areas" of Minneapolis.

During a two hour discussion in which many ideas were considered and many suggestions were advanced, the committee made the following recommendations for a leadership training program to begin in April, 1964.

1. Program Purpose

To provide women with training in leadership concepts and techniques with the aim of fostering in them the self-confidence and the personal skills which will, in turn, stimulate them to broaden their interests and activities in the wider community, its institutions, and its organizations.

2. Program Content

The committee recommends that a series of at least six seminar-workshops of two hours each be held on weekday evenings, in order to facilitate the participation of working women and women with young children.

Among the general topics suggested for the workshops were the following:

- 1) The role of Women in Modern Society--i.e., how a woman can fulfill her diverse responsibilities to husband, children, and community, with emphasis on her need to cultivate interests outside of the home and the immediate family environment.
- 2) The community -- Its Institutions and Organizations--i.e., a description of the structure of the community, with emphasis on institutions and organizations which utilize volunteer boards of directors and committees.
- 3) How To Function Effectively in an Organization--i.e., the responsibilities of membership, including ideas on program planning, fund-raising, public relations, membership drives, and parliamentary procedure, committee organization, etc. (Two sessions were suggested to cover this area adequately).
- 4) Participation in the Political Parties and Non-Partisan Civic Organizations--i.e., discussion of both political parties and organizations such as the League of Women Voters, the Citizens League, Citizens Committee on Public Education, etc. with the emphasis on participation at the membership level. (A panel of representatives of both parties and several civic groups might be most effective for this program).
- 5) How To Serve the Needs of the Local Community--i.e., translating interest into action with the emphasis on matching a woman's interests, abilities, and schedule to the organizations in her neighborhood and in the larger community which might best utilize her service as a member or volunteer. (A representative of the Volunteer Service Bureau and several other organizations such as PTA, Community Centers, YWCA, etc. might share a panel for this.)
- 6) How To Work Effectively With Others--i.e., this will emphasize human relations and encourage greater group participation than the earlier workshops. The emphasis will be on understanding and getting along with people from various backgrounds, such as are represented in most community groups. (A representative from a human relations group, or several representatives would be good for this seminar).

3. Program Recruitment

The committee felt that the women who would most benefit from the type of program outlined above and whose point of view is currently lacking from many civic groups are those who fall into two major groups: non-white women of Negro, Indian and Oriental backgrounds and white women of working class socio-economic status. No age limit was set, for it was felt that a mixed age group would be of benefit to all.

Suggested sources of participants for the leadership training classes are: ministers who serve churches in minority and working-class areas; staff members of neighborhood community centers; school principals who work with PTA groups; officers of neighborhood improvement associations; social workers from agencies serving these areas, such as the Urban League. Suggested size for the group was about 25 women.

4. Program Resources

The committee suggests that the resource people be drawn from organizations which are members of the Steering Committee. These organizations could suggest women who are outstanding in some particularly effective in ideas or in the techniques of fund-raising would be asked to volunteer her time to talk to the group about this area. Another suggestion was to seek out women from minority or working class background who have successfully participated in some community activity and ask them to serve as resource people also. A few men might also be asked to conduct some of the sessions or serve on one of the panels, such as Larry Harris of the Minneapolis Youth Development Project.

The YWCA representatives felt that the courses could meet at the "Y" in each city, subject to the vote of the Boards of Directors.

Any materials necessary for the course would be duplicated by the Governor's Human Rights Commission, but we do not anticipate many materials.

5. Program Cost

The committee feels that the cost of such a program would be minimal, and we would expect that any such costs for materials, postage etc. would be absorbed by the treasury of the Women's Committee. The low cost of the program assumes that the speakers and the space can be obtained without any expense.

If any major costs should arise when the details are worked out, we would hope that the sponsoring organizations could make contributions to defray the expenses.

The Program Committee also briefly discussed a few other proposals, but these ideas will have to be investigated more thoroughly at a future meeting. One idea was to set up a committee to study the problems of migrant workers in Minnesota with the possibility of sponsoring a conference on their problems, or investigating legislative remedies. Another suggestion was that our committee should collaborate with the Civil Liberties Union to issue a pamphlet to inform people of their rights in case of arrest, for most people are not aware of their rights. A final suggestion was the publication of a brochure to give suggestions to the general public about concrete positive activities in the field of civil rights. The committee would welcome any suggestions on the implementation of any of these ideas.

POLICY FORMULATION FOR MINNESOTA WOMEN'S COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Eligibility:

1. Organizations that have a membership totally or predominantly women, or have programs ~~directly~~ related to women which would serve as a vehicle for action.
2. Civil rights must be of current ^{or continuing} concern to the organization.

Purposes:

1. To provide a clearinghouse and information giving function for all such women's organizations in the state and to the various state and local units of any affiliated or active organization, the clear purpose of which would be to allow for action to be taken by an individual group if they determine that this fits in with their general purposes.
2. To take action on legislative and other civil rights items representing those organizations which through their own policies and recommendations have determined such a position.

Types of Membership:

Two types of membership are suggested to carry out these two functions --

1. Full active membership will be available to those organizations for whom action is a legitimate outgrowth of policy and program.
2. Affiliate membership will be available for those organizations for which civil rights issues have been peripheral to the main purpose of their organization or which have not utilized organizational procedures to have obtained a civil rights position at this time. This category of membership would allow such organizations to participate in as complete a way as their individual organization policies permit. Because the field of civil rights is so dynamic, it would be hoped that constant re-evaluation and exploration of program would ultimately mean reinforcement of the civil rights item as a central theme in each women's organization in the state, thus providing a vehicle for participation in a full, active and meaningful way in the Minnesota Women's Committee on Civil Rights.

Vote on issue
Paling provides program

DEPARTMENT Governor's Human Rights Commission

STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO : Women Attending Civil Rights Luncheon

FROM : Mrs. Wright W. Brooks, Co-Chairman
Minnesota Women's Committee on Civil Rights

DATE: April 10, 1964

SUBJECT: Minnesota Women's Committee on Civil Rights Luncheon Meeting

This is just to remind you of the Minnesota Women's Committee on Civil Rights Luncheon Meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 14th at 12:15 p.m. at the Minneapolis Y.W.C.A.

Would you please call the Governor's Human Rights Commission office on Monday, April 13th to indicate whether or not you will attend the meeting.

GB:gs

REGARDING NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

PREMISE: That the probability of rational action increases if people from whom action is required have thought about a problem before it occurs.

PURPOSES: 1) To get people to think about the integration issue as their problem; 2) To identify people in a neighborhood who would lend support to people of minority groups moving into the community, to majority group people making their property available within the intent of the fair housing law, and to cooperative realtors.

CONDITIONS: 1) Someone must be willing to offer his home for a house meeting; 2) A reason must exist for others in the community to attend (invitation of a friend, concern either for the rights of others or their own security, etc.) 3) Adequate leadership (resource person(s); 4) Ample opportunity for discussion - to challenge and/or absorb information and to air feelings. "Opportunity" is both time and an atmosphere of acceptance and freedom.

ATTENDANCE: Each host may invite perhaps three other parties and ask each of them to invite three others. (If the meeting is arranged after fear or tension has been aroused in a neighborhood, focus the plans around some neighbor who is well respected but is not known to have strong feelings on the subject one way or the other. People will then attend because of anxiety to "do something.")

THE MEETING(S) SHOULD BE DESIGNED TO REDUCE OR ELIMINATE FEAR. FEAR IS THE GREAT DETERRENT TO INTEGRATED HOUSING. Fear of: 1) Property (financial) loss; 2) Loss of social status; 3) Inter-marriage (intimacy); 4) Crime; 5) Neighborhood decline; 6) Being in the minority.

AGENDA:

Thus far it has seemed most helpful to have a series of three meetings.

FIRST: On the Fair Housing Law and property values. Copies of the law may be obtained to distribute and discuss at the meeting. A film on the "Laurenti Report" or discussion with a knowledgeable person can allay fears about property value, and ways to prevent such loss. The film condenses the report so much that it has some weaknesses. A person from the Urban League, State Commission Against Discrimination, Governor's Commission on Human Rights, etc., or a realtor can perhaps render a greater service. An honest realtor who knows the score may resent or even hate the fair housing law (because he feels realtors are saddled with the burden of a problem the public has created), but he will also point out that property values decline only if people panic. (Fears 1, 2, 5 listed above are apt to be dealt with in this meeting.)

SECOND: On the housing situation in the Twin Cities. Discussion should include all minorities, not only Negroes. This meeting should deal with fear #6 but also enlist active sympathy for the plight of minorities. There are around 9,000 Negroes in St. Paul. If they all moved to the suburbs they would still constitute a rather small proportion of the suburban population. And many do not want to move out here - and others cannot because of financial circumstances. Good information is required for this meeting. The agencies listed above, plus the Metropolitan Planning Commission, can supply material and/or leadership. In this kind of meeting it is appropriate to guide thought to the Constitution and professed ideals of our country, and to the moral issue. But try to direct

discussion rather than "preach" - which in this context is apt to arouse defensiveness instead of openness.

THIRD: How it feels to be in the minority position. Have Negroes, Indians and/or Orientals present (all parties should know this in advance). This should be a time of free interchange. The feel is what you want to get. The Negroes must be selected persons who are articulate and so gracious that they can accept the cruellest question or comment magnanimously and respond honestly and fearlessly. Some Negroes who could do this are not willing. They rightly feel their Constitutional rights have been trampled on for generations and their dignity as persons has been trampled on for 300 years in this country. They should have their rights as citizens even if we all hated them. So why should they have to go through things like this to get their rights? But others who know this is theoretically the case also realize that practically the white majority will not accord them their rights until we know some of them as persons.

At this meeting the host or a "leader" should be prepared to ask questions that plunge the discussion right into the thick of emotions. We prefer not to put examples in writing but would share some if asked.

IF YOU CAN REASONABLY EXPECT TO HAVE ONLY ONE MEETING:

Have three leaders (or two plus yourself): 1) One who will quickly present the Fair Housing Law, the probable effect on real property values, and the Twin City housing situation; 2) One (or more) from a minority group who can supply the kind of information or "feel" mentioned for the third meeting above; and 3) One (maybe yourself) who will ask the questions.

In this case, make the presentation very brief, give most of the time to question. Let the third leader (or host) direct the discussion by asking questions. When you feel the major questions about the Law, the objective situation, etc., have been dealt with, raise questions about the "feel."

ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE: A party with people of different races. (Be sure all who are invited know before hand that it will be "mixed.")

ALWAYS HAVE PLENTY OF TIME FOR DISCUSSION - and an atmosphere of freedom.

Make the setting as relaxed as possible. Have refreshments during (not after) the discussion.

LEADERSHIP: The North Suburban Committee on Civil Rights will be glad to help you obtain leadership and resource material. You may contact Mrs. James Kelsey, 633-3170.

FOLLOW-UP: The Committee hopes that if you conduct such a meeting (or meetings) that by the conclusion you will ask those who are willing to give their names as interested in helping as occasion may arise - either in further educational work or in dealing with tense situations which may arise.

MINNESOTA WOMEN'S COMMITTEE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS



Room 72 State Office Building

St. Paul, Minnesota 55101



Tel. 221-2158

CO-CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Wright W. Brooks
Mrs. James L. Gibbs, Jr.

CONSULTANT:

Calvin L. Walton

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Miss Lyla Niederbaumer

March 24, 1964

Dear Friend:

It has been sometime since we have had any communication with you. The Steering Committee has been meeting and has formulated several plans which we feel are implementing the five points we originally talked about last August.

On Tuesday, April 14th we are having a luncheon meeting at the Minneapolis Y.W.C.A. (12th and Nicollet) at 12:15. We have asked Robert Williams and Professor Ayers Bagley to speak to us on human relations problems in education. Mr. Williams is Executive Director of the Minneapolis Urban League and Professor Bagley is on the education faculty at the University of Minnesota.

We hope you can be present and we ask that you fill out and return the enclosed card by Monday, April 13th.

Sincerely yours,

Wright W. Brooks

Mrs. Wright W. Brooks
Co-Chairmen

Jewell Taylor Gibbs

Mrs. James L. Gibbs
Co-Chairmen

NEWSLETTER

MINNESOTA WOMEN'S COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS
Room 72, State Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Mrs. Wright Brooks

CO-CHAIRMEN

Mrs. James Gibbs Jr.

VOL. 1

March, 1964

Miss Shirley Smith, executive director of the National Women's Committee for Civil Rights, challenged us in our November Conference, to initiate "Operation Dialogue" since "before understanding takes place, something has to be said, and something has to be heard." It is hoped that this newsletter will be one means of exchanging information and ideas in areas of civil and human rights.

Two outgrowths of the Civil Rights Conference.... Mrs. Barbara McCarty went back to Mankato and decided to see if a local human rights committee could be organized..... Calvin Walton and Len Kastner of the Governor's Human Rights Commission helped with initial plans and the local committee is established with Barbara McCarty as temporary chairman. Indeed ideas get into action!

Mrs. Betty Posten and some of her friends have been meeting in each other's homes... learning about agencies... asking persons to come and give them information - such as Robert Williams, Urban League, and James MacDonald of SCAD. The group want to become better informed.

* * * * *

Three conferences and a series of workshops within the last two months have involved either organizations or individuals affiliated with the Women's Committee on Civil Rights.

1. Institute on Community Action for Youth was held January 27 at the Continuation Center, University of Minnesota, with the Minneapolis Section National Council of Jewish Women and YWCA as the prime organizations, with others cooperating in the program. Purpose was to examine selected areas of public education and seek ways for further study and effective community action, especially school drop-outs.
2. Interfaith & Interracial Conference of Youth, February 21 - 23 at Lyman Lodge, with student panel discussing "What it is like to be a Student in an Integrated School" and also reaction groups to tapes of James Baldwin and Martin Luther King.
3. Minnesota Conference on Religion and Race - the first state interfaith and interracial religious conference, held February 27 - 28. Attended by over 900 persons. A report and follow-up suggestions will be issued soon.
4. A series of three workshops sponsored by the North Suburban Committee on Civil Rights, with over-all theme "Racial Integration and the Suburban Area". Three Steering Committee members participated in the workshops - Mrs. James Gibbs, Mrs. David Kanatz and Mrs. Harold Watson. Suggestions for action developed at these meetings are included on the following page. These may be helpful to your organization.

Two pilot projects will be undertaken in May, with a Leadership Institute series. Mrs. Leonard Savitt of Minneapolis and Mrs. F. M. Snodgrass of St. Paul will act as chairmen for the projects. An attempt will be made to invite a group of women from

several target areas in the Twin Cities who want to become better informed about the status of women, women's organizations and roles played by volunteers in the community. This is an attempt to follow up on one of the late President Kennedy's five points - namely, to establish leadership training for all women in intergroup relations.

* * * * *

YOU MAY WANT TO READ: -

Homes and Community - pamphlet by American Friend Service Committee
160 North 15th Street, Philadelphia, Penn. 19102

The President's Committee on Equal Opportunity in Housing
Washington, D. C. 20501

DO YOU NEED ANY MORE COPIES OF THE REPORT CONFERENCE ON CIVIL RIGHTS?

Write Governor's Human Rights Commission
State Office Building, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

* * * * *

SUGGESTIONS FOR ACTION
(Recommended by North Suburban Committee on Civil Rights)

1. Make your position known
 - a. Contact local real estate agents to tell them you have no objection to member of minority groups for neighbors.
 - b. Commend employers whom you are aware have hired members of minority groups. Patronize them if possible.
 - c. Wear an Equal Opportunity button
2. Encourage the use of minority speakers in the program planning of your organizations.
3. Exchange visits with members of minority groups. These can be arranged for individuals or groups through the Minnesota Council of Churches.
4. Join a human relations organization.
5. Subscribe to Ebony magazine (Ebony Magazine Circulation Department, 820 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago 16, Illinois). Distribute your back copies to libraries, churches, barbershops, beauty parlors.
6. Consider holding a neighborhood meeting or a series of such meetings. See the mimeographed sheets titled "Regarding Neighborhood Meetings".

M
E
M
O

TO: Annette

FROM: Marion

SUBJECT Women's Steering Committee
Civil Rights

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15th and WASHINGTON AVES. S.E.

MINNEAPOLIS 14, MINNESOTA

DATE Feb. 3, 1964

According to the enclosed announcement (I am sending you the whole bit on the supposition that I got one you did not & you should attend the meeting) ^{the meeting which} ~~what was held was~~ a program sub-committee meeting. I do not know whether the policy sub-committee has ~~met~~ met. Should policy precede program? At any rate, in view of the fact that the whole steering committee has not met since Dec. 10, perhaps you will want to revise your letter to Mrs. Brooks. Roberta will lead it up till you get here Thursday. If you would like to call me re these program plans, I will be happy to hear from you. M.

MINUTES

Meeting: Steering Committee for the Minnesota Women's Committee on Civil Rights

Place: Midway YMCA -- Room 205

Date: March 10, 1964 -- noon

Members Present:
Mrs. Jonell Morgan
Mrs. K. L. Lipp
Mrs. Leonard Savitt
Vi Kanatz
Calvin L. Walton
Mary Parks Lynn
Shirley Zimmerman
Gladys Brooks
Mrs. F.M. Snodgrass
Berdine Thompson

Mrs. E.V. Bergstrom
Edith Hatch
Judith Holschlag
Judy Vick
Mary Lou Brackett
Harriet S. Holden
Mrs. H.S. Wenson, Jr.
Mardine Nathanson
Kay Kling

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mrs. Brooks, at 12:55 p.m., following the luncheon. The March newsletter and mimeographed sheets titled "Regarding Neighborhood Meetings" were distributed.

Newsletter: The chairman announced that Mrs. Mary Jo Richardson had agreed to serve as editor of the newsletter. News should be sent to her or to the office.

Minutes: Minutes of the February 11 meeting were distributed, reviewed and approved.

Report - Policy Committee: Mrs. Kanatz presented the report of the Policy Committee and distributed statements regarding eligibility and purposes. Discussion included the following points:

1. Eligibility is to be kept flexible.
2. It was believed dues were not necessary at this time.
3. If a program is sponsored by the total committee, all organizations would be contacted so the decision would be unanimous.

Motion made, seconded and carried to accept the report with minor editorial changes.

REPORTS:

Leadership Series
Mrs. Snodgrass -
St. Paul

The sub-committee held one meeting with seven present.
Following decisions were made:

1. Time - four meetings will be held in May, 8:00 to 10:00 p.m., on Mondays.
2. Place - YWCA
3. Speaker for the first meeting not decided. Mrs. Hynes of the Jewish Council will speak at the second meeting.
4. Invitations and flyers will be sent to selected women of minority groups.
5. The next meeting of the planning committee will be March 24.

Mrs. Savitt -
Minneapolis

1. The sub-committee considered the areas of:
 - a. Recruitment - Suggested names will be obtained from principals of junior and senior high schools, pastors, settlement houses, etc.
 - b. Education - the purpose of the first meetings will be to give information.
 - c. Involvement - encourage participation
2. Time - Evening sessions, four Wednesdays in May
3. Place - YWCA
4. Program plans include:
 - a. Woman's role in society
 - b. How to participate in organizations
 - c. Information regarding organizations in Minneapolis
 - d. Involvement in organizations

Discussion:

Mrs. Hatch called attention to the danger of a "patronizing" attitude in selecting the women.

Mr. Walton questioned the value of a letter to principals, pastors, etc. believing personal contact would be better.

Mrs. Nathanson suggested that a time-table might be set. If no response is received from the letter, direct contact follow-up might be done.

Mrs. Kanatz questioned what approach would be used to stimulate interest in attending the first meeting. She believed that sufficient time spent with the first-level contact would "pay off", even if it meant postponing the dates of the meetings.

The Urban League Guild was suggested as a good contact for recommending names.

The chairman recommended that the discussion and suggestions be reported to the sub-committee for their consideration.

Announcements:

Shirley Zimmerman called attention to an article on "Integration" in a recent issue of Atlantic Monthly.

Mrs. Brooks announced that the next meeting, April 14, may be open to the groups invited to the first meeting. Suggested speaker - Mr. Robert Williams or Mr. Larry Harris. The place of the meeting has not been decided.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Berdine Thompson
Secretary Pro Tem

MINUTES

MEETING: Steering Committee, Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights
Luncheon Meeting
Minneapolis YWCA
Tuesday, March 30, 1965

PRESENT: Mrs. Wright W. Brooks, Co-Chairwoman
Mrs. James L. Gibbs, Co-Chairwoman
Mrs. E.V. Bergstrom
Mrs. Howard Brin
Mrs. Viola Kanatz
Miss Kay Kling
Mrs. C.A. McKinley
Mrs. Jonell Morgan
Mrs. Medora Peterson
Miss Dorothy Russell
Mrs. Clare Savitt
Mrs. Marguerite Shellenberg
Mrs. Darrell R. Yates

Judy Vik, Minneapolis Tribune
Sue Hovik, Minneapolis Star

Miss Beverly Bergman, Assistant Director, Governor's Human Rights Comm.
Calvin L. Walton, Executive Director, Governor's Human Rights Comm.

Apprenticeship Program

The Steering Committee adopted the recommendations of the Apprenticeship Committee and voted to:

- 1) Write a letter to Governor Karl F. Rolvaag reminding him of his pledge to appoint a Labor and Industry Committee.
- 2) Contact Stephen Thrig of the St. Paul Bureau of Apprenticeship Training and urge the establishment of an Apprenticeship Information Center.

Specific recommendations of the Apprenticeship Committee will be published in the next issue of the Newsletter. Member organizations are urged to study the recommendations and to take appropriate action for their implementation.

New Programs Developed by Member Organiza- tions

Jonell Morgan reported that the St. Paul YWCA is making a concentrated attempt to encourage Negro youth to take part in "Y" programs by providing transportation to enable students to use the "Y" after school hours, appointing Negro persons to the Board of Directors, promoting exchange programs with other agencies, and through the activities of the Racial Study Committee.

Mrs. Savitt reported on the B'Nai B'Rith's on-going "Dolls for Democracy" program.

Mrs. Brin discussed the three-part series "The Immovable Middle Class" published by the National Council of Jewish Women and the ways in which the Minneapolis chapter had utilized the materials.

Mrs. Yates reported that the Minnesota Nursing Students Association is one of four student organizations working with the National Urban League to recruit minority students for professional nursing careers.

Mrs. Peterson reported on the progress being made in the "Toys for Peace" program sponsored by WILPF.

Mrs. Bergstrom explained that the Community Youth Resources Committee under the new WICS (Women in Community Service) program is working to interest youth in the job training centers, to encourage young people to finish high school and to develop some sort of follow-up program for those youth not accepted into the training programs.

Recommendations
for Future
Programming

The Steering Committee agreed to broaden the scope of future MWCCR programs to include an impact on human as well as civil rights.

Co-chairmen will appoint two special committees:

- 1) Membership Committee members will review current membership policies and recommend changes which might encourage more minority women to become active in MWCCR.
- 2) Program Committee members will develop and recommend a leadership training program to supplement the work of the institute held last Spring, and will explore educational programs which might be utilized by member organizations.

Proposed Budget

The treasurer will present a tentative budget at the next meeting, at which time steering committee members will be asked to suggest ways in which the proposed budget might be met.

Memorial Service

The MWCCR will sponsor a memorial service for Mrs. Luzzo at St. Peter's AME Church this evening, March 30th.

Next Meeting

The Steering Committee will meet on Wednesday, April 28th.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Yates
Secretary

MINUTES

MEETING: Steering Committee, Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights

Dinner Meeting
University of Minnesota Episcopal Center
Wednesday, April 28, 1965

PRESENT: Committee Members

Mrs. Wright W. Brooks, Co-Chairmen
Mrs. James L. Gibbs, Jr., Co-Chairmen
Mrs. Judith Yates, Secretary-Treasurer
Mrs. John C. Brackett
Mrs. Russell Lund
Mrs. Helen Galaska
Mrs. Joseph Nathanson
Miss Beverly J. Bergman, Assistant Director, Governor's Human Rights
Commission

Leadership Training Institute Graduates

Miss Alfrieda Beaver	Mrs. Carl F. Collborn
Miss Margaret Sayers	Mrs. Winifred Jourdain
Mrs. Lillian Warren	Mrs. Betty Bruce
Mrs. Erma Mazingo	Mrs. F.M. Snodgrass, Coordinator
Mrs. Betty Hodge	for the St. Paul Leadership
Mrs. Mary Bible	Training Institute
Mrs. Tom Hansen	
Mrs. Eleanor Winkelman	
Miss Lorraine Coleman	
Miss Alva Varnado Smith	
Miss Deborah Clark	
Mrs. Thelma Hinkle	
Mrs. Julia Cherry	
Mrs. Helen L. Barnes	

Governor
Responds

Mrs. Brooks reported that Governor Rolvaag had responded to the Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights' letter of inquiry in regard to progress with respect to apprenticeship programs. The Governor has appointed a committee to study the implementation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and the possibility of establishing an apprenticeship committee in the Twin Cities. Mrs. Brooks and Mrs. Kanatz have been appointed to the committee and will keep the Women's Committee informed of developments.

Leadership
Training
Follow-up
Program

Mrs. Gibbs discussed the progress that had been made by the re-activated planning committee for leadership training in regard to a series of follow-up programs to be conducted in the fall of 1965.

Community leaders who had participated in the 1964 program and steering committee members developed the following plan:

The leadership training institutes will be conducted in two phases:

1) This fall, those who participated in the original program will attend a series of six seminars focused on the use of parliamentary procedure, the development of public speaking skills, methods by which committees might be organized and utilized effectively, and dissemination of information in regard to community resources.

These seminars will be conducted in a central location outside of the neighborhoods.

Two of the seminars will be conducted as workshops in which participants will use skills learned to plan a series of four leadership training sessions for new recruits. These workshops will be designed to evaluate the effectiveness of the follow-up program.

2) Next spring, participants in the follow-up program will conduct a series of four introductory leadership training seminars in their neighborhoods....object: to involve new participants in the program.

Minneapolis and St. Paul will reactivate their leadership training committees and will ask three graduates of the 1964 institutes to serve on each committee. The two committees will meet within the next few weeks to lay the groundwork for the 1965 follow-up program.

Newsletter

The Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights Newsletter will be sent to all guests present.

DEPARTMENT Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights

STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO : All Members of the Steering Committee

FROM : Mrs. Wright W. Brooks, Co-Chairwoman

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Steering Committee of the
Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights

DATE: April 20, 1965

The Steering Committee of the Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights will meet at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 28th, at the University Episcopal Center, 317 - 17th Avenue S.E., Minneapolis. (The Foundation is just off University Avenue and parking is available on nearby streets or in adjacent University lots.)

There will be a supper at 6:00 p.m. for which there will be a small charge. A report will be given by the Subcommittee on Leadership Training.

We hope you shall be able to come for the supper and meeting. Please phone (221-2158) or return the enclosed post card no later than Tuesday, April 27th.

GB:gs

enc. 2

NEWSLETTER

MINNESOTA WOMEN'S COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS
Room 72, State Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Mrs. Wright Brooks

CO-CHAIRMEN

Miss Pearl Mitchell

VOL. III, NO. 2

March 1966

.....Second series Leadership Training held during October and November were most successful. Mrs. F. M. Snodgreass reported that St. Paul held five meetings with a total attendance of 41 women. Mrs. Peter Warhol and Mrs. Leonard Savitt reported in Minneapolis six meetings were held with a total of 58 women attending. It is hoped that in the near future information from these sessions will be summarized and made available to those organizations interested.

.....Pearl Mitchell of St. Paul was elected co-chairman of the Women's Committee replacing Mrs. James Gibbs, who is now in Liberia with her husband. When the Gibbs return next September, they will be at Stanford University, Palo Alto, California.

.....A group of young people from Judson Memorial Baptist Church and Zion Baptist Church of Minneapolis are presenting a program in the form of a "Docudrama" on the topic of Negro and Caucasian relationships which they call "Color it Black or White". (Docudrama is a form of theater in which actual news events are dramatized and the sources of the incidents are presented to authenticate each vignette). For further information, contact Reverend J. Richard Fowler, Judson Memorial Baptist Church, 4101 Harriet Avenue South, Minneapolis, phone TA 2-2267; or Reverend Douglas Wallace, Zion Baptist Church, 1323 Lyndale Avenue North, phone 521-5402. Groups and organizations will be challenged and stimulated by this special production.

.....A Housing Handbook - NEIGHBORS AND NEIGHBORHOODS - published by National Board, YWCA, is available by writing Bureau of Communications, 600 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10022. Price \$1.50.

.....The Minneapolis Mayor's Commission on Human Relations has completed a "Survey and Analysis on Non-White Employment by the City of Minneapolis". Copies are available from the Mayor's Commission on Human Relations, 222 Public Health Building, Minneapolis 55415.

.....For six months the grape pickers in the Delano area of California have been striking for minimum wages and the right of collective bargaining. Their plight has now been focused nationally. A team from the National Council of Churches investigated conditions. Other groups decided on a nationwide boycott to support the strikers. Here in Minnesota an Ad Hoc Committee has been formed to cooperate with this effort. This boycott will be directed toward Schenley products because Schenley is the only inter-state merchant who owns vineyards in the Delano area.

.....A group of women - interfaith, inter-racial - offers a panel presentation "What I Do About Prejudice". Sponsored by United Church Women and by the Social Relations Department of the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches, they are open for engagements throughout the state. Call Rev. Helen MacRobert Galaska, 332-2571, or Mrs. Percy Hughes, 822-8806, for further information.

ANNUAL MEETING

(Consideration of the image of minorities in the area of mass media will be special emphasis)

Theme: "WHAT IS MISSING IN THIS PICTURE?"

Specifics:-

Date: May 14, 1966 (Saturday)

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Place: Minneapolis AAUW Clubhouse

Address: 2115 Stevens Avenue South, Minneapolis

Cost: Luncheon and Registration - \$2.50

PLEASE SEND NAMES OF PERSONS IN YOUR ORGANIZATIONS WHO SHOULD RECEIVE NOTICE

RESERVATION FOR WOMEN'S COMMITTEE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS ANNUAL MEETING, MAY 14, 1966

Number of reservations _____

Name _____

Address _____

Organization _____

Suggested women to be invited from out-state chapters:

MAIL TO:-

Minnesota Women's Committee for Civil Rights
% Governor's Human Rights Commission
72 State Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101