



League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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ELMER L. ANDERSEN
SENATOR 42ND DISTRICT
2230 W. HOYT AVE.
ST. PAUL 8, MINN.

CHAIRMAN
PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE



State of Minnesota
SENATE

Hargraves
Young
F3D2A 11
COMMITTEES
CITIES OF THE FIRST CLASS
CIVIL ADMINISTRATION
COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES
EDUCATION
FINANCE
PUBLIC DOMAIN
PUBLIC HIGHWAYS
RULES AND LEGISLATIVE EXPENSE
UNIVERSITY

January 3, 1957

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

Dear Mrs. Hargraves:

Thank you so much for your letter of December 10th and please accept my apology for the long delay in replying. Not only did the holiday activity intervene but I had a business trip out of the city since receiving your letter and these two combined to delay an answer.

Last session of the legislature I was one of the sponsors of the bill calling for a vote on the issue of a constitutional convention. Senator Stanley Holmquist of Grove City was the main author and I believe he is willing to serve in that capacity again. He was main author on the bill in the House when he was a member of that body. I would be very delighted to see Senator Holmquist again be the main author and to join with him and others who have worked for the measure in the past. We will keep in touch with you and I know you can be very helpful both in generating support at home and in working with legislators when they visit their home constituency. Also your representatives can do good work at the session.

I am sure you observed that the Republican and DFL party chairmen agreed to join hands in uniting support behind the bills. That could be quite significant.

Cordially yours,

Elmer L. Andersen
Elmer L. Andersen
State Senator - 42nd District

ELA/dp



Jan 1957

PROGRAM OF ORIENTATION
for
NEW MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
of the
1957 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE

In cooperation with the State Department of Education
as an Adult Education Project

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15 - Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session in House Chamber

Orientation by George H. Leahy, Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

Rules of the House
Parliamentary Procedure
Questions and Answers

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16 - Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session in House Chamber

Orientation by George H. Leahy, Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

Drafting and Processing of Bills
Questions and Answers

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17

9:30 a.m. - Auditorium, Ground Floor, State Office Building

Orientation by Arthur Naftalin, Commissioner of Administration
Discussion of Functions relating to following Executive and
Administrative Departments

Governor	Attorney General
Lieutenant Governor	State Auditor
Secretary of State	Treasurer

Afternoon - Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session
(Assemble at Rear of House Chamber)

Visits to Executive and Administrative Department Offices of

Governor - Orville L. Freeman (Room 130)
Lieutenant Governor - Karl F. Rolvaag (Room 239)
Secretary of State - Joseph L. Donovan (Room 128)
Attorney General - Miles Lord (Room 102)
State Auditor - Stafford King (Room 123)
State Treasurer - Val Bjornson (Room 124)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18

9:30 a.m. - Auditorium, Ground Floor, State Office Building

Orientation by Arthur Naftalin, Commissioner of Administration
Discussion of Functions relating to following State Departments

Adjutant General	Employment Security
Administration	Highway
Agriculture	Taxation
Business Development	Veterans Affairs
Civil Service	Welfare
Conservation	
Education	University of Minnesota

Afternoon - Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session
Auditorium, Ground Floor, State Office Building

Continuation of morning Orientation Session, if necessary,
by Arthur Naftalin, Commissioner of Administration.

VISITS TO STATE DEPARTMENTS

(Assemble in rear of House Chamber each morning and afternoon)

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

(9:30 a.m.) Adjutant General - Major General Joseph E. Nelson
Room 10, Capitol

(10:00 a.m.) Administration - Arthur Naftalin, Commissioner
Room 120, Capitol

(11:00 a.m.) Civil Service - John W. Jackson, Director
Room 122, State Office Building

Afternoon - Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

Agriculture - Byron G. Allen, Commissioner
Room 515, State Office Building

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

(9:30 a.m.) Conservation - Dr. George A. Selke, Commissioner
Room 356, State Office Building

(10:45 a.m.) Education - Dr. Dean M. Schweickhard, Commissioner
Room 301, State Office Building

Afternoon - Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

Welfare - Morris Hursh, Commissioner
State Office Building Annex, 117 University Avenue

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

(9:30 a.m.) Employment Security - Frank T. Starkey, Commissioner
369 Cedar Street, St. Paul

(10:45 a.m.) Taxation - G. Howard Spaeth, Commissioner
156 E. Sixth Street Building, St. Paul

Afternoon - Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

Highway - M. J. Hoffmann, Commissioner
1246-1279 University Avenue, St. Paul

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24

(9:30 a.m.) University of Minnesota - Dr. James L. Morrill, President
Minneapolis Campus

Afternoon - Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

University of Minnesota - St. Paul Campus

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

(9:30 a.m.) Business Development - James W. Clark, Commissioner
Room 213, State Office Building

(10:45 a.m.) Veterans Affairs - William E. Revier, Commissioner
Veterans Service Building

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

84 SOUTH TENTH STREET, ROOM 406

MINNEAPOLIS 3, MINNESOTA

Atlantic 0941

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION SURVEY * SENATE

FAVOR (31)

<u>Caucus Dist.</u>	<u>Counties</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
C 2	✓ J. R. Keller Winona	Will vote for it but campaign against it
C 5	✓ P.J. Holand Dodge, Mower	Austin League had convinced him.
YC 6	Rudolph Hanson Freeborn	Persuaded by Sen. Holmquist.
C 7	Ernest J. Anderson- Faribault	For it maybe..general principles, yes.
C 17	Martin M. Malone Le Sueur	Favors unreservedly
YC 20	Arthur Gillen Dakota	Authored similar bill.
C 25	Harry Wahlstrand Willmar	Phoned. Says he favors bill.
C 26	Stanley W. Holmquist - Meeker	Co-author SF 23
YL 28	Harold Kalina	Staunch advocate
YC 16	Harold S. Nelson-- Owatonna	Changed from undecided to favor.
YL 29	Donald Fraser - Hennepin	
C 31	Ralph L. Mayhood- Hennepin	
YC 35	Gerald T. Mullin- Hennepin	Co-author of SF 23
YL 37	Harold W. Schultz- Ramsey	
L 38	B. G. Novak - Ramsey	
YC 39	Jos. H. Masek - Ramsey	Says may vote No in final vote.
YC 40	Harold J. O'Loughlin - Ramsey	
C 41	Leslie E. Westin - Ramsey	
✓C 42	Elmer L. Andersen - Ramsey	Co-author SF 23
✓L 43	Raphael Salmore- Washington	
L 44	✓ Ralph W. Johnson- Anoka, Isanti	
C 45	John L. Richardson- Benton, Sherburne, Stearns-	says "please don't quote me"
✓C 48	Fred W. Behmler- Stevens, Traverse, Big Stone, Grant-	
YL 50	Henry Nicklemoe Ottertail	
C 52	George O'Brien - Cass, Itaska.	
L 54	Norman W. Hanson- Aitkin, Carleton	"Probably yes."
YC 55	C.C. Mitchell - Kannabec, Mille Lacs, Sherburne	
L 60	Elmer Peterson - St. Louis	
L 61	Thomas D. Vukelich St. Louis	
L 63	Norman J. Walz Becker, Hubbard	
L 66	Louis A. Murray Polk	Says he "campaigned for it."

OPPOSE

C 1	✓ John A. Johnson Fillmore, Houston	"not necessary"
N C 3	Robert J. Dunlap Wabasha	
C 4	Walter Burdick Olmstead	"Afraid radicals may be delegates."
N C 9	Chris L. Erickson- Martin, Watonwan	"Always been against it."
C 13	J.A. Josefson - Lyon, Yellow Medicine	"fears reapportionment."
C 15	Franklin P. Krohler Nicollet, Sebby	"amendments will take care of it."



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

STATE OF MINNESOTA

SIXTIETH
SESSION

}

S. F.

No. 183

Introduced and Read First Time Jan. 24, 1957, by Messrs. Dunlap
and Root.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

Reported Back Apr. 10, 1957, to Pass as Amended.

Read Second Time Apr. 10, 1957.

Matter in italics is new; matter in capitals when in () is old law to be omitted.

A BILL

For an Act Proposing Amendments to the Constitution of the State of Minnesota by Eliminating Provisions Now Obsolete; Repealing Certain Provisions of Article IV, Section 23 and Certain Provisions of Article VII, Sections 1 and 2; Repealing Article IV, Section 26, and Article VII, Section 8.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. For the purpose of eliminating and repealing certain obsolete provisions of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, the following amendment and repealer is proposed to the people of the state for their approval or rejection.

Subdivision 1. Article IV, Section 23 of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota is amended to read:

Sec. 23. At their first session after such enumeration made by the authority of the United States, the legislature shall have the power to prescribe the bounds of congressional, senatorial and representative districts, and to apportion anew the senators and representatives among the several districts according to the provisions of section second of this article.

Subd. 2. Article VII, Section 1 of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, is amended to read:

Section 1. Every person of the age of twenty-one (21) years or upward who has been a citizen of the United States for three months and who has resided in this state six (6) months next preceding any election shall be entitled to vote at such election in the election district of which he at the time has been a resident for thirty (30) days for all officers elective by the people.

15 Subd. 3. Article VII, Sec. 2 of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, is amended to read:

16 Sec. 2. No person who has been convicted of treason or any felony, unless restored to civil
17 rights; and no person under guardianship, or who may be non compos mentis or insane, shall be
18 entitled or permitted to vote at any election in this state.

19 Subd. 4. Article IV, Section 26 of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, pertaining to the
20 election of United States Senators by the legislature, and Article VII, Section 8, pertaining to the
21 franchise of women in certain instances, be repealed.

Sec. 2. The question shall be submitted to the people of this state for their approval or rejection at the general election for the year 1958 in the manner provided by law for the submission of amendments to the Constitution. The votes thereon shall be counted, canvassed, and the result proclaimed as provided by law. The ballots used at this election shall have printed thereon the following:

6 "Shall the Constitution of the State of Minnesota be amended by repealing obsolete provisions
7 contained in Article IV, Sections 23 and 26 and in Article VII, Sections 1, 2 and 8, pertaining
8 ing to the taking of a census at stated intervals; the election of United States Senators
9 by the legislature; the elective franchise of persons of Indian blood so as to treat them the
10 same as other persons on matters relating to qualification for voting; and pertaining to the
11 franchise of women in certain instances?

12 Yes _____

13 No _____"

STATE OF MINNESOTA

SIXTIETH
SESSION

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S. F.

No. 183

Introduced and Read First Time Jan. 24, 1957, by Messrs. Dunlap
and Root.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

Reported Back Apr. 10, 1957, to Pass as Amended.

Read Second Time Apr. 10, 1957.

Matter in italics is new; matter in capitals when in () is old law to be omitted.

A BILL

For an Act Proposing Amendments to the Constitution of the State of Minnesota by Eliminating Provisions Now Obsolete; Repealing Certain Provisions of Article IV, Section 23 and Certain Provisions of Article VII, Sections 1 and 2; Repealing Article IV, Section 26, and Article VII, Section 8.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. For the purpose of eliminating and repealing certain obsolete provisions of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, the following amendment and repealer is proposed to the people of the state for their approval or rejection.

Subdivision 1. Article IV, Section 23 of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota is amended to read:

Sec. 23. At their first session after such enumeration made by the authority of the United States, the legislature shall have the power to prescribe the bounds of congressional, senatorial and representative districts, and to apportion anew the senators and representatives among the several districts according to the provisions of section second of this article.

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9 by the legislature; the elective franchise of persons of Indian blood so as to treat them the
10 same as other persons on matters relating to qualification for voting; and pertaining to the
11 franchise of women in certain instances?

12 Yes _____

13 No _____"

Exec

STATE OF MINNESOTA

SIXTIETH
SESSION

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S. F.

No. 187

Introduced and Read First Time Jan. 24, 1957, by Messrs. Fraser
and Rosenmeier.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

Reported Back Apr. 10, 1957, to Pass as Amended.

Read Second Time Apr. 10, 1957.

Matter in italics is new; matter in capitals when in () is old law to be omitted.

A BILL

For an Act Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Article V, Sections
3 and 5, Providing for a Four Year Term for the Office of Governor and Other Constitutional Officers.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. The following amendment of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Article V,
Sections 3 and 5, is hereby proposed to the people of the state for their approval or rejection, which
sections when amended shall read as follows:

Section 3. The term of office for the governor and lieutenant governor shall be four years, and
until their successors are chosen and qualified. Each shall have attained the age of 25 years and
shall have been a bona fide resident of the state for one year next preceding his election. Both
shall be citizens of the United States.

Section 5. The official term of the secretary of state, treasurer, attorney general, and state
auditor shall be four years, and each shall continue in office until his successor shall have been
elected and qualified. The further duties and salaries of the executive officers shall each be pre-
scribed by law.

Sec. 2. This proposed amendment shall be submitted to the voters for their approval or rejection
at the general election for the year 1958 in a manner provided by law, and if adopted this
amendment shall take effect as to terms of office beginning on the first Monday in 1963. The bal-
lots used at the election shall have printed thereon:

5 "Shall the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Article V, Sections 3 and 5, be amended so
6 as to provide for the election of the governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, treas-
7 urer, and attorney general for four year terms beginning with the general election in 1962?

8 Yes _____

9 No _____"

STATE OF MINNESOTA

SIXTIETH
SESSION

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S. F.

No. 412

Introduced and Read First Time Feb. 1, 1957, by Messrs. Welch,
Rosenmeier and Novak.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

Reported Back Apr. 15, 1957, to Pass as Amended.

Read Second Time Apr. 15, 1957.

Matter in italics is new; matter in capitals when in () is old law to be omitted.

A BILL

For an Act Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Article IV, Section 1,
Relating to the Legislature.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. An amendment to Article IV, Section 1, of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota,
2 is proposed to the people of the state for their approval or rejection. The proposed amendment is as
3 follows, and if adopted section 1 will read as follows:

4 Section 1. The legislature shall consist of the senate and house of representatives. The senate
5 shall be composed of members elected for a term of four years and the house of representatives
6 shall be composed of members elected for a term of two years by the qualified voters at the general
7 election. Their terms shall begin on the first Monday in January next following their election.

8 The legislature shall be a continuous body during the term for which the house of representatives
9 is elected. It shall meet at the seat of government at regular session in each odd numbered year at the
10 time prescribed by law for a term not exceeding 120 legislative days unless the term is increased by
11 a law enacted at a previous session of the legislature.

12 A special session of the legislature may be called as otherwise provided by this Constitution or
13 may be called in the manner provided by law or by the joint rules of the senate and house of representa-
14 tives.

Sec. 2. The proposed amendment shall be submitted to the people of this state for their approval
2 or rejection at the general election for the year 1958 in the manner provided by law for the submis-

3 sion of amendments to the Constitution. The votes thereon shall be counted, canvassed and the result
4 proclaimed as provided by law. The ballots used at this election shall have printed thereon the fol-
5 lowing:

6 "Shall the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Article IV, Section 1, be amended so that (a)
7 the regular session of the legislature will not be limited to 90 days but will be held in odd numbered
8 years at the time prescribed by law, and for a term not exceeding 120 legislative days unless the term
9 is increased by a law enacted at a previous session of the legislature; (b) a special session of the leg-
10 islature may be called at any time in the manner provided by law or by legislative rules or as other-
11 wise provided; (c) the legislature shall be a continuous body during the term for which the house
12 of representatives is elected.

13 Yes _____

14 No _____"

STATE OF MINNESOTA

SIXTIETH
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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

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10 time prescribed by law for a term not exceeding 120 legislative days unless the term is increased by
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13 may be called in the manner provided by law or by the joint rules of the senate and house of representa-
14 tives.

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8 years at the time prescribed by law, and for a term not exceeding 120 legislative days unless the term
9 is increased by a law enacted at a previous session of the legislature; (b) a special session of the leg-
10 islature may be called at any time in the manner provided by law or by legislative rules or as other-
11 wise provided; (c) the legislature shall be a continuous body during the term for which the house
12 of representatives is elected.

13 Yes_____

14 No_____”

MINNESOTA CITIZENS CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE

FEB 5 - 1957

P.R. F2 D4 B 10 a

OFFICERS

DONALD A. HOLMES, Chairman
Minneapolis
O. J. JERDE, Vice Chairman
St. Cloud
ROGER B. PAGE, Vice Chairman
St. Paul
MRS. RUSSELL T. LUND, Secretary
Edina
MISS CELIA LOGAN, Treasurer
Minneapolis
JAMES OLSON, Auditor
Minneapolis

February 7, 1957

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MRS. ELLIS PEILEN, Minneapolis
MISS BARBARA STUHLER, Minneapolis
MISS JOYCE VOEKS, Minneapolis

Dear Friend of Constitutional Convention:

First, let me express the appreciation of the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Citizens Constitutional Committee for your willingness to serve as a member of our Advisory Council.

Next, let me ask your help and tell you of our plans. The convention bill has already been introduced in the Senate (authors: E. L. Andersen; Stanley Holmquist; Harold W. Schultz) and in the House (authors: A. I. Johnson; Joe Karth; Clarence Langley; Sally Luther; Roger F. Noreen). The first hearing will be before the House General Legislation Committee. As soon as the time of the hearing is set - it may be in the evening - we will have a meeting of the Board and Advisory Council and attend the hearing (your chairman will testify for this Committee). I hope many of you will be present. More than that, I hope you will ask members of your own organizations interested in this legislation to be present at this and subsequent hearings - we will let you know as soon as we know the date of this first hearing.

Now is the time to start the letter-writing campaign, particularly to members of the Senate. If we can show that people are interested in this measure, our position will be greatly strengthened. Even if your Senator favors the convention bill, letters to him will strengthen his hand in the debate. One of our most compelling arguments is "let the people decide." This decision is their constitutional right! Already, some Senators who previously opposed the bill are now expressing a willingness to vote for this first step of submitting the question of holding a constitutional convention to the people for their vote.

You may have noticed the good publicity which the metropolitan press, radio and TV have given to this issue. Anything you can do to get the papers and radio stations in your area to write about and discuss the convention bill will be, of course, all to the good.

In summary:

1. Plan to attend our meeting and the House General Legislation Committee hearing - information about date, time and place will reach you soon.
2. Start the letters coming from people in your district to your Representatives and Senators, particularly the latter.
3. Encourage your editors and radio station owners to devote space and time to a discussion of this issue.

Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Donald A. Holmes
Chairman

Encls:

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

February 18, 1957

Constitutional Convention Testimony in Support of H.F. 289
before General Administration Committee by Mrs. Malcolm Hargraves for LWV

Because the League of Women Voters is an organization whose interest is entirely in the field of government and the citizen's relationship to it, the issue of a constitutional convention bill seems to us one of the right of the people to vote on how the Constitution shall be revised.

That it needs revising is not a point of dissension. The Legislature presents the voter at every general election with amendments for his consideration. Twenty-six amendments have been proposed at this session, if my last count was correct, but I hope that not all of them will appear on the ballot. The three we voted on last November cost approximately \$183,000. This figure is based on the estimate of the Secretary of State that amendments constitute $1/5$ to $1/4$ of election costs. I have used the one-fifth. It includes both state (publicity and ballots) and local costs. It does not include the expense of interim committees, which studied the problems involved in the subject of the amendments and made recommendations, nor does it take into consideration that Amendment 2, dealing with the distribution of highway user taxes, had been submitted, in one form or another, four times in recent years - 1948, '50, '52, '56. Amendments do not come cheaply.

Compare this cost to Minnesota for three amendments to the cost of \$330,000 to New Jersey for a convention to revise its entire constitution.

Cost is only one aspect of the virtues of a Convention compared to the amending process. The amendment to the Judiciary Article is an example of what may happen in piece-meal revision. In 1954 we voted to change two provisions related to the probate court. Last November another amendment to the judiciary article resubmitted the same provisions (qualifications of judges and the size of the vote required for the Legislature to extend the jurisdiction of the court) on which we had voted at the preceding election. This is one difference between amendments and revision by a body elected to review the whole Constitution - one section related to another within an article and articles related to each other - and with time to do it unpressured by other work.

Misgivings are often expressed about the composition of a Convention, as though it would be an assembly having nothing in common with the prevailing character and convictions of the people of Minnesota. The conservatives are afraid that it will be composed of radicals; and the liberals that it will be composed of reactionaries. A Convention would not be a homogeneous group. It would be as varied as the Legislature itself: its delegates elected as are members of the House, in the same numbers, from the same districts. This would assure its representative character. Differing opinions would be expressed, discussed and reconciled. Under this procedure there is no reason why the resulting constitution should not be a document acceptable to the people of the state.

The entire population - rural, urban and suburban - is affected by constitutional changes. There is state-wide agreement that changes are needed. There are those who think that a Convention is a more thorough, orderly and, in the long process, cheaper way than amendments to bring about changes. They would like an opportunity to submit their views to the judgment of the electorate.

MINNESOTA CITIZENS CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE

February 28, 1957

OFFICERS

DONALD A. HOLMES, Chairman
Minneapolis
O. J. JERDE, Vice Chairman
St. Cloud
ROGER B. PAGE, Vice Chairman
St. Paul
MRS. RUSSELL T. LUND, Secretary
Edina
MISS CELIA LOGAN, Treasurer
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MRS. REUBEN BRUSTUEN, Appleton
JOHN A. LUNDQUIST, Willmar
Eighth Congressional District
MRS. C. L. EDSON, Duluth
EMIL ERICKSON, Virginia
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MRS. ELLIS PEILEN, Minneapolis
MISS BARBARA STUHLER, Minneapolis
MISS JOYCE VOEKS, Minneapolis

Dear Friend:

First, let me thank you for your good work on behalf of the constitutional convention bill now before the Legislature. We know that expressions of citizen support have reached the legislators - thanks to your efforts and those of other interested organizations and individuals.

You are probably aware, too, that our plans for a meeting of our Board of Directors and Advisory Council did not materialize. Monday morning at 8:30 a.m., February 18, was obviously not a convenient time for such a gathering. Your chairman, representatives of farm, labor, women's organizations, and the bipartisan committee were among those testifying on behalf of the convention bill. Last Monday, February 25, Otto Christianson, claiming to represent only about 400 of the 1600 members of the Minnesota Employers Association, and M. J. Galvin, emphasizing that he spoke not for the railroads, but only for himself, appeared in opposition.

Mr. Christianson's highly emotional testimony was unfortunately effective. The House authors are now concerned about the chances of getting the bill out of committee.

WILL YOU PLEASE GET LETTERS, WIRES, PHONE CALLS COMING INTO THE HOUSE GENERAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE THIS WEEK END, BEFORE MONDAY, MARCH 4. This is short notice but it is extremely urgent. The House authors have also asked that as many of us as can be present at the Capitol in Room 302, Monday, March 4, at 8:30 a.m. when the committee vote is taken.

The members of the General Legislation Committee are:

Hagland, Chm. L, 31	Ernst C, 22	Murk L, 29
Kelly, J.J., V. Chm. L, 13	Fitzsimons C, 67	Skeate L, 29
Alderink C, 55	Iverson L, 48	Thompson, H. C, 51
Bergerud C, 36	Karth L, 41	Thompson, T. C, 1
Enestvedt L, 23	Klaus C, 20	Tomczyk L, 28
	Kording L, 32	Wee L, 12
	Lovik C, 63	Windmiller C, 50

(C - Conservative L - Liberal Number - Legislative district)

Thank you again for your help.

Sincerely yours,

Donald A. Holmes
Chairman

MINNESOTA CITIZENS CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE

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7 7

To the Minnesota State Legislature:

"Shall there be a Convention to revise the Constitution of the State of Minnesota?" SF 135; HF 289.

We invite your attention to these facts:

1. There have been 180 State Constitutional Conventions held in the United States since Massachusetts called the first one in 1779.
2. Conventions have written original constitutions in 48 states and in territories; have amended; have made complete revisions.
3. Only 18 states, including Minnesota, still operate under constitutions that have not been revised by Conventions.
4. Only 10 States operate under constitutions older than Minnesota's without complete revisions.
5. State Constitutions, unlike the Federal Constitution, require periodic complete revision, and have received this in 30 states. Eight states now require automatic submission of the convention question to the people at intervals of from 10 to 20 years.
6. President Eisenhower's Commission on Intergovernmental Relations reported that "constitutional limitations make it difficult for many States to perform services..., and have been the underlying cause of State and Municipal pleas for Federal assistance."
7. States holding recent Constitutional Conventions report:
 - a. Calibre of Delegates: The people elect as delegates such distinguished citizens as judges, specialists in constitutional law, and legislators who serve willingly because they appreciate the historic significance of the event.
 - b. Time: Conventions afford ample time for debate and study. No State has yet amended its constitution satisfactorily through amendments proposed solely by the legislature because legislative sessions are too short and crowded with bills and duties to permit sufficient time for debate on this complicated and basic legal matter.
 - c. Costs: The Convention method of Constitutional revision is less costly than the gradual amendment method. New Jersey's convention lasted 90 days, cost \$330,000; Missouri's lasted 12 months, cost \$697,145. At Minnesota's 1956 election, three amendments on the ballot cost taxpayers an estimated \$226,212.

James Olson

Research Committee, M. C. C. C.

2/15/57

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

February, 1957

Additional copies-- 2¢

House File # 450 - Senate File # 401

THE BERGERUD REAPPORTIONMENT BILL

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota asks your consideration of this bill, on the basis of the following facts:

This is an area compromise plan.

Hennepin and Ramsey legislators would represent an average of 18,121 people each.

Non-metropolitan legislators would represent an average of 13,834 people each.

Metropolitan districts would have a 30% greater population than rural districts.

As many counties as possible are given a representative. Where a small county is paired with a large county, each is given one representative, with the assumption that the larger county will have a greater voice in the election of the senator from that district, thereby balancing the representation.

In accordance with constitutional requirements, districts are contiguous, and no house districts are divided in making senatorial districts.

Counties are not divided in forming districts (except Stearns which is divided at present).

As few district lines as possible are changed, and as few individuals as possible are affected. The status quo in both houses is upset much less than in most proposed constitutional amendments.

The effect in the House is to:

Add 1 each to Olmsted, Mower, Rice and Dakota Counties.

Give 1 each to Anoka and Isanti (instead of 1 together).

Add 2 to Ramsey (districts which contain suburban growth).

Add 6 to Hennepin (2 in Minneapolis and 4 in the suburbs).

St. Louis remains the same, except that representation is shifted from an over-represented to an under-represented district.

Hennepin and Ramsey counties would receive an increase of only 6% of state representation. They now have 22%; this bill gives them 28%; full population representation would give them 34%.

Many legislators, political scientists, lawyers and the members of the League of Women Voters, who have carefully analyzed this bill, believe it is a fair and workable compromise and the most realistic reapportionment plan that has been proposed for Minnesota.

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

February 1, 1957
Additional copies ____

LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

PATRICIA'S ESSAY



Last April the League of Women Voters of Minnesota sponsored an essay contest for high school students on the Minnesota Constitution. The first four winners were to be awarded a trip to the 1957 Legislature. Plans were made for a tour of the capitol, a visit to a committee meeting and lunch with the legislators. We also asked that the first prize winner be given permission to read her essay before the Senate and the second prize winner before the House. Verbal permission was granted to us so we sent out newspaper releases and arranged for radio and TV coverage. Plans were well under way when the Senate Rules Committee met and turned down the request because the issue discussed in the essay was controversial, and legislation on the issue was pending in the Senate. We accepted their decision without question and changed our plans accordingly. Patricia was to be introduced to the Senate and copies of her essay were to be put on every Senator's desk. At the last minute the Senate relented and decided to permit Patricia to read her essay right after adjournment. The press picked up the story as a newsworthy one and for three days Patricia's essay was headline news. Lots and lots of people heard about Constitutional Revision for the first time. On February 1 the Minneapolis Morning Tribune wrote an editorial and printed the entire essay.

1 8 5 7

Patricia's essay was titled Minnesota's Only Constitutional Convention and started out this way:

"1857! A constitutional convention.....Since then there have been 83 amendments made to our constitution, but never a revising convention. The cause for delay in this much needed revision is controversy in the legislature. According to Article I of the constitution the people are to decide whether or not to have a constitutional convention. They can only do this when the question is submitted to them at the polls, but the legislature has so far refused to allow this".

1 9 5 7

Let's take our cue from Patricia's essay and insist that in 1957 - 100 years later - the legislature allow the people of Minnesota a chance to call a constitutional convention "to give Minnesota a real, a working constitution."

ENCLOSURE

Enclosed is one tear sheet from the Minneapolis Morning Tribune of February 1, 1957, which includes Patricia Graf's first prize winning Essay on the Minnesota Constitution, which she read to the Minnesota Senators, and an excellent editorial entitled, "Patricia's Essay."

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION A bill for an act proposing a convention to revise the constitution of the state of Minnesota was introduced in the Senate January 23, and in the House, January 24, 1957.

Senate File: #135

Authors: Stanley Holmquist (C, 26); E. L. Andersen (C, 42); and Harold Schultz (L, 37). *

The Senate bill has been referred to the Judiciary Committee with the following members:

Welch, Chm. C, 27	Kalina L, 28	O'Loughlin C, 40
Dunlap C, 3	Masek C, 39	Root C, 33
Erickson C, 9	Miller C, 36	Rosenmeier C, 53
Feidt C, 34	Mitchell C, 55	Schultz L, 37
Fraser L, 29	Mullin C, 35	Wefald C, 49
Gillen C, 20	Nelson, H. C, 16	Wright C, 30
Hanson, R. C, 6	Nycklemoe L, 50	

House File: #289

Authors: Joe Karth (L, 41); A. I. Johnson (L, 25); Clarence Langley (C, 19); Sally Luther (L, 30); Roger Noreen (C, 57).

The House bill has been referred to the General Legislation Committee made up of:

Hagland, Chm. L, 31	Fitzsimons C, 67	Murk L, 29
Kelly, J.J., V.Chm. L, 13	Iverson L, 48	Skeate L, 29
Alderink C, 55	Karth L, 41	Thompson, H. C, 51
Bergerud C, 36	Klaus C, 20	Thompson, T. C, 1
Enestvedt L, 23	Kording L, 32	Tomczyk L, 28
Ernst C, 22	Lovik C, 63	Wee L, 12
		Windmiller C, 50

* C- Conservative L - Liberal Number - legislative district

What you can do - If your senator or representative is an author of the bill, write or tell him "thank you." If either one of your legislators is on either committee, write and ask his support in the committee hearings.

Senator Holmquist, chief author of the bill in the Senate, mentioned when League representatives met with the authors of the bills, that the most helpful thing we could do was to get people in communities throughout the state to write their legislators asking them to vote for the bill. It is you, the constituent, on whom we have to depend for the real work.

PARTY DESIGNATION This elections bill would have the effect of providing party designation for state legislators.

House File: #41

Authors: Karl Grittner (L, 39); A. F. Oberg (C, 56); John Hartle (C, 16); Joe Karth (L, 41); Burnett Bergeson (L, 64).

The House bill was referred to the Elections Committee made up of:

Grittner, Chm. L, 39	Fitzgerald L, 21	Klaus C, 20
Fudro, V.Chm. L, 28	Fuller C, 12	Knudsen L, 25
Bergeson L, 64	Grussing C, 24	Langley C, 19
Christie C, 30	Jensen C, 14	Luther L, 30
Dunn C, 50	Karth L, 41	Yetka L, 54

This bill was considered by the House Elections Committee on Thursday, January 31. Mrs. Albert Richter, speaking for the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, said that party labels for legislators, in the League's opinion, "are the best way to promote responsible government."

What you can do - If any of these legislators are your representatives, it would be helpful to the bill's passage if you remind them (by letter or in person) of the League's interest in obtaining party designation for state legislators.

Senate File: No bill has been introduced as yet in the Senate.

The Senate Elections and Reapportionment Committee, to which the bill will be referred when introduced, is composed of:

Erickson, Chm. C, 9	Feidt C, 34	O'Laughlin C, 40
Anderson, A.A. C, 11	Holand C, 5	Peterson L, 60
Anderson, M.H. L, 32	Johnson, R., L, 44	Root C, 33
Behmler C, 48	Keller C, 2	Rosenmeier C, 53
Burdick C, 4	Kroehler C, 15	Sinclair C, 67
Carr L, 59	Mitchell C, 55	

REAPPORTIONMENT The Bergerud Bill has been introduced in the House. Several other reapportionment bills are being considered. We will send you complete information on them later.

House File # 450

Authors: Bergerud (C, 36); Popovich (L, 40); Noreen (C, 57); Anderson, H. J. (C, 33); Adams (L, 31).

The House bill has been referred to the Committee on Reapportionment made up of:

Iverson, Chm. L, 48	Battles L, 67	Mosier L, 35
Adams, V.Chm. L, 31	Enestvedt L, 23	Noreen C, 57
Angstman C, 55	Fitzgerald L, 21	Olson, C.G. L, 9
Anderson, J.T. C, 42	Jensen C, 14	Parks C, 42
Bergerud C, 36	Klaus C, 20	Searle C, 16
Bergeson L, 64	Kording L, 32	

G O P and the D F L The Republican and Democratic-Farmer-Labor Parties in Minnesota have united for a drive for passage of constitutional revision, reapportionment and party tags for lawmakers. The bi-partisan approach to putting pressure on the legislature will be headed by a joint committee. Chosen by the Republicans were P. Kenneth Peterson, Minneapolis; Sen. Albert Quie, Dennison; Mrs. Leonard Wilson, Carlton; Rep. Alf Bergerud, Edina, and Mrs. Marge Howard, Chanhassen. Chosen by the DFL's are William E. Carlson, St. Paul; Mrs. Marge Maki, North St. Paul; Dr. C. F. McQuiggan, Marshall; Mrs. Betty Green, St. Louis Park; and Gerald Dillon, Minneapolis. This bi-partisan approach should be a good talking point for us in promoting our program. If any of these people are from your community - offer them congratulations, encouragement and material.

File

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

February 8, 1957
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LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN - No. 2

"TIME FOR ACTION *ON* PARTY DESIGNATION"

House File # 41 - Authors: Grittner (L, 39), Oberg (C, 56), Hartle (C, 16),
Karth (L, 41), Bergeson (L, 64).

The House Elections Committee recommended passage of the Party Designation Bill by a voice vote on Thursday, February 7th. According to newspaper reports, only two committee members were heard to say "no" -- Mr. Fuller and Mr. Grussing.

The Bill will come up for vote on the floor of the House very soon, possibly during the week of February 11 to 15th.

The Bill has more chance of passing this year than last session because steps have been taken to prevent an amendment that would call for Party Designation for county officials. In past sessions this amendment has been added to defeat the bill. This cannot be done this year because a separate bill has been introduced calling for Party Designation for County Officials. To quote from the House Rules: "45c. No bill or resolution shall at any time be amended by annexing thereto or incorporating therein any other bill or resolution pending before the House."

Five members of the bi-partisan committee attended the hearing, and Mr. P. K. Peterson spoke in favor of the bill as their representative. The only opponent who spoke was Rep. Iverson.

Now is the time to start your letters to your representatives!

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

February 22, 1957
Additional copies, 2¢

LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN - No. 3

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

The first hearing for the proponents was held before the General Legislation Committee on February 18, at 8:30 A.M. in Room 304, State Capitol. Those testifying for the bill, House File # 289 were: Mr. William Pearson, of State Grange; Mr. Donald Holmes, Chairman of the Minnesota Citizens Constitutional Committee; Professor William Anderson of University of Minnesota political science department; William Carlson speaking for the joint legislative committee of the DFL and Republican parties; Mrs. Malcolm Hargraves for the League of Women Voters of Minnesota; Mrs. Ellis Peilen for the Council of Jewish Women; Mr. George W. Lawson, University regent, and active in AFL; Mrs. G. Kilborn for the Republican Workshop; Speaker A. I. Johnson, Mr. Roger Noreen, Mrs. Sally Luther, all authors of the bill, spoke for its passage; and Mr. Joe Karth, introducing author, presented the bill to the members of the committee and introduced all those who wished to give testimony. Mr. Stanley Platt also spoke for the bill. The hearing on February 25, 8:30 A.M. will be for the opponents of the bill.

PARTY RESIGNATION

The Senate bill has been referred to the Senate Elections and Reapportionment Committee. See page 3 of Feb. 1 Legislative Bulletin.

Senate File: # 705

Authors: Quie (C, 18); Holmquist (C, 26); Fraser (L, 29)

House File: # 41 - This bill was passed out of the House Elections on February 7, 1957. On February 14 it was discussed, debated and amended in the House Committee of the Whole. The amendment, authored by Rep. George French, Minneapolis, would give a state lawmaker, or a person of his choice, a seat on the county committee of his respective political party. On February 15, it was voted its final passage - 95 for and 32 against. Three did not vote.

REAPPORTIONMENT The Senate bill was introduced on January 31.

Senate File: # 401

Authors: Gillen (C, 20); Andersen, E. L. (C, 42); Wefald (C, 49).

This bill was referred to Senate Elections & Reapportionment Committee. See page 3 of Legislative Bulletin, dated Feb. 1, 1957 for listing of this committee.

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

March 8, 1957
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LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN - No.4

The legislative session is half over and League supported bills are just beginning to move. From now on they will move fast, and those of us who are planning to take action must "get set" and be "ready to go" when the time for action comes.

PARTY DESIGNATION

The Party Designation bill has passed the House 95 to 32.

It is now awaiting action in the Senate Elections and Reapportionment Committee. If you have any influence with Senators on this committee (see page 3, Legislative Bulletin, Feb. 1), use it to hurry up action on this matter before it gets so late in the session that a special order will be required. (S.F.705)

FEPC

The FEPC supporters have appeared before the House Appropriations and the Senate Finance Committees, asking for an appropriation of \$70,000 for the next biennium, an increase of \$5,000 a year over last session.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

The Constitutional Convention bill (H.F.289) was passed out of the House General Legislation Committee by a vote of 11 yes votes to 6 no votes, with 2 passes. Every member was present, and they voted as follows:

Hagland, L, 31	yes	Fitzsimons, C, 67	no	Murk, L, 29	yes
Kelly, J.J., L, 13	yes	Iverson, L, 48	no	Skeate, L, 29	yes
Alderink, C, 55	no	Karth, L, 41	yes	Thompson, H., C, 51	pass
Bergerud, C, 36	yes	Klaus, C, 20	yes	Thompson, T., C, 1	no
Enestvedt, L, 23	no	Kording, L, 32	yes	Tomczyk, L, 28	yes
Ernst, C, 22	yes	Lovik, C, 63	pass	Wee, L, 12	yes
				Windmiller, C, 50	no

The vote last session in the Committee was 20 to 1. So it's clear that the 11 to 6 vote this year is too close for us to relax. The bill will come up on the House floor the last part of the week of March 11 or, if debate moves too slowly, the first part of the following week. There is opposition to the bill in the House. Some of the rural legislators are telling us that they will vote against the bill because the convention would be controlled by liberals and labor people and they fear the Constitutional Convention would solve the reapportionment problems to the disadvantage of the rural people. We have found our most effective argument is that the legislature should no longer deny the right of the people to express themselves, as for or against a constitutional convention.

NOW IS THE TIME FOR ACTION -- IT'S TIME TO WRITE YOUR
REPRESENTATIVES TO VOTE FOR THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION BILL.

The Senate Judiciary Committee hearing for Constitutional Convention will be Thursday, March 14, from 8 to 9 A.M. for the proponents, and from 9 to 10 A.M. for the opponents. The Senate Committee personnel is the same as it was in the 1955 session. There is much work to be done in the committee. If your Senator is on the Judiciary Committee (see page 2, Legislative Bulletin, Feb. 1), please write and ask that he support the bill.

REAPPORTIONMENT

The Bergerud Reapportionment bill (H.F.450) passed out of the House Reapportionment Committee on March 6 by a vote of 10 to 7 with recommendation to pass. The vote was as follows:

Iverson, L, 48	no	Battles, L, 67	yes	Mosier, L, 35	yes
Adams, L, 31	yes	Enestvedt, L, 23	no	Noreen, C, 57	yes
Angstman, C, 55	yes	Fitzgerald, L, 21	no	Olson, C.G., L, 9	no
Anderson, J.T., C, 42	yes	Jensen, C, 14	no	Parks, C, 42	yes
Bergerud, C, 36	yes	Klaus, C, 20	yes	Searle, C, 16	no
Bergeson, L, 64	no	Kording, L, 32	yes		

This is a larger vote of approval than the bill had last year. This is, however, only the first of four hurdles. The next, the Senate Committee, will be particularly difficult. Will you write your Senator and Representatives telling them we urge their support for H.F.450 and S.F.401.

The House Reapportionment committee also voted out an area compromise amendment without a recommendation to pass. If the Senate committee approves an amendment, there will probably be a conference committee to work out an agreement suitable to both Houses. We will advise you of progress in the next bulletin. We do remind you that the LWV is backing both a statute under the present constitution to remedy immediately Minnesota's bad situation (the Bergerud bill) and will support a compromise amendment to permanently solve the problem of apportionment in Minnesota, if an acceptable amendment makes any progress. Your lobbyists are keeping in close touch with legislators on this matter.

There will be a half hour TV show on Reapportionment on Sunday, March 17, at 1:30 P.M. on Channel 5. The Bergerud bill will be debated by the author and Senator Gillen, and an area compromise constitutional amendment on Reapportionment will be debated by Senator Erickson and Representative Iverson.

LAST MINUTE BULLETIN

The Reapportionment bill will be given its first Senate hearing on Monday, March 11, in room 237 at 9 A.M. before the Senate Elections and Reapportionment Committee. The proponents will speak the first forty minutes. Senator Erickson is chairman of this committee, and the rest of the committee is listed on page 3, Legislative Bulletin, Feb. 1. Your lobbyists say the interest in Reapportionment is at a peak of interest at the Capitol..... something will be done.....they want the question settled this session.

LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN - No. 5

CONSTITUTIONAL
CONVENTION

On March 26, the Senate Judiciary Committee, with two members absent, voted 9 to 9 on killing the bill, and again 9 to 9 on sending it to the Senate floor by recommending it to pass.

Therefore the bill remained before the committee.

On March 28, committee members, by moving adjournment, avoided setting time for a re-vote.

On April 4, the committee voted against setting a time for another committee vote. The strategy, as voiced by Senators Wefald and Wright, was that they wanted to hear the report of a sub-committee on constitutional amendments before taking another vote on the convention bill.

We still have hope of another committee vote on the Constitutional Convention bill, after the amendments have been acted upon, but hope of Senate passage is very dim!

The members of the sub-committee are Senators Rosenmeier, Root and Fraser. Twenty-nine separate amendments to the constitution were introduced into the Senate this session. The work of the sub-committee was to consolidate the subject matter and report a few amendments to the main committee to act upon. This report was presented Friday morning, April 5. The report included 4 amendments: 1) Home Rule Amendment, 2) Amendment on length of sessions, 3) Four year term for constitutional officers, and 4) a section eliminating "dead wood." Final committee action on these amendments has not been taken at this writing. We report this to you so that you may understand the strategy the committee is using.

The passage of these amendments out of committee and onto the ballot greatly reduces the need for and chances for a convention. This is precisely what the Judiciary committee intended. Our conviction that the citizen is the constitution maker is being circumvented, by action of the Senate Judiciary Committee in delegating to a three man sub-committee the responsibility of recommending revision in these areas. Once again the Senate is denying the citizens the right to make the choice that is theirs -- to decide if they want a Constitutional Convention.

WHAT WOULD YOU AS A CITIZEN DO NOW?

REAPPORTIONMENT

At a late, long and confusing meeting of the Senate Elections and Reapportionment Committee April 4, the following decisions were made on legislative reapportionment. The Bergerud-Gillen Bill was amended to preserve almost completely the status quo in the Senate. However, the metropolitan areas would retain the additional seats given them in the Senate, and the House reapportionment would remain substantially as accepted by that body on March 29.

Here is the new angle: The Bergerud-Gillen bill would become effective not at the next election, but in 1963, and only if an area amendment was accepted by the voters in 1958. We feel this is an unacceptable solution because:

1. the whole point of statutory reapportionment would be immediate relief,
2. conditioning a statute upon an amendment is not good legislative procedure,
3. there is no indication what the amendment would be (House and Senate are still far apart on which body should receive the area consideration, and
4. Any statute and amendment offered together should at least be like each other in purpose and effect. No possible amendment could be anything but incongruous with the Bergerud-Gillen bill as amended (modified population, House; modified area in Senate).

WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO TELL YOUR SENATOR WHY WE OBJECT TO THIS PACKAGE DEAL, AND THAT WE STILL HOPE FOR A STATUTE AND A SEPARATE AMENDMENT.

TIME FOR ACTION ON REAPPORTIONMENT

The Bergerud bill and a reapportionment amendment, which would forever freeze Senatorial districts, were married by action of the Senate Elections and Reapportionment Committee, April 4. Since the League of Women Voters considers this marriage an extremely ill-mated one, it is our policy to press for annulment. (Our reasons for objecting were set forth in Legislative Bulletin No. 5 which you have just received in the last President's mailing.)

After talking with the chief authors, Rep. Bergerud and Senator Gillen, and representatives from the Bipartisan Committee, the League has joined in a last attempt to pass either the Bergerud bill or - more probably - a reapportionment amendment which the League can support.

This is what will be tried:

1. Senator Gillen will move on Friday, April 12, that the Senate vote on the Senate version of reapportionment - that is, Bergerud bill a part of a reapportionment amendment - on Monday, April 15. It will be the strategy of the friends of reapportionment to try to separate the bill and the amendment on the Senate floor.
2. If this separation fails in the Senate (and there is little hope that it will succeed), and if the Senate should pass the bill and the amendment in their present unified form, the bill would have to go to a conference committee of the Senate and House.
3. The last hope for a form of reapportionment which the League could support would depend on how representatives from both the House and Senate would resolve the differences between the two versions of reapportionment legislation. The only "compromise" which the authors and the League can probably hope for would be rejection of the Bergerud bill and acceptance of a more "reasonable" amendment.

This action is being taken to get a commitment from each Senator with respect to his position on reapportionment and to secure further public education through the process of Senate debate.

In this strategy, local League members can be most helpful if they:

will watch the papers to see if Senator Gillen gets the special order for a Senate vote on April 15. If he fails, reapportionment legislation may be lost in the last minute rush.

urge their Senators - if Senator Gillen gets this commitment for an April 15th vote - to support either the Bergerud bill or an amendment, or both, but not the present version of bill-amendment.

No reapportionment legislation in the present Senate form will be accepted by the House. It will certainly not be supported by the League. We do have a chance of securing a good reapportionment amendment if we all let our Senators know that reapportionment by statute or by amendment should be considered and voted separately.

LEGISLATIVE ROLL CALLS - 1955

A brief picture of what happened to League bills during the 1955 Legislative Session is here included. Please attach this ROLL CALL to the 1955 LEGISLATIVE REPORT and refer to it for the complete picture of what happened to each bill.

Some bills, when amended, have an entirely different meaning than the original bill - for example, the Party Designation bill this session. If your legislator voted "no" on this bill, we have not attempted to interpret if he did so because he opposed party designation for legislators, or because he opposed the amended bill, which included party designation for county officials as well.

The League reports the recorded votes for you. Only your legislator can interpret his own vote for you.

CONSTITUTIONAL
CONVENTION
DEFEATED

This bill "Would submit this question to the voters in November, 1956: 'Shall there be a convention to revise the Constitution of the State of Minnesota?'"

Senate File # 23

Authors: Holmquist, Mullin, E. L. Andersen
Vote: 40 - no 27 - yes

House File # 65

Authors: Cina, Langley, H. R. Anderson, A. I. Johnson, Luther
Vote: Lost in the Senate, the Constitutional Convention bill never received final vote in the House.

REAPPORTIONMENT
DEFEATED

The Bergerud Bill. A statutory proposal for an act to prescribe the boundaries of senatorial and representative districts and to reapportion, concedes to the area principle: metropolitan legislators would represent an average of 18,121 people each; rural legislators would represent an average of only 13,834 people each.

Senate File - No companion bill introduced in the Senate, but House File # 279 was defeated in Senate Committee.

House File # 279

Authors: Bergerud, Popovich, Herzog, Wegner, French
Vote: 68 - yes 59 - no

PARTY
DESIGNATION
FOR
LEGISLATORS
DEFEATED

A bill to provide for party designation for legislators. Amended by the House to provide for party labels for county officials as well, and to entitle legislative nominees to sit on their parties' county central committees.

Senate File # 14

Authors: Vukelich, Peterson, E. L. Andersen
Vote: It never got to the point of committee discussion in Senate.

House File # 12

Authors: Grittner, Oberg, Wozniak, Rutter, Karth
Vote: 68 - no 62 - yes

FAIR
EMPLOYMENT
PRACTICES
BILL
PASSED

"A bill for an act for Fair Employment Practices creating and establishing a Fair Employment Practices Commission; preventing and prohibiting discrimination in employment based on race, color, creed, religion, or national origin; establishing methods and procedures for this purpose and providing an appropriation to carry out the purposes of the act."

Senate File # 722

Authors: Mullin, E. L. Andersen, Vukelich
Vote: 49 - yes 10 - no 8 - not voting

House File # 778

Authors: A. I. Johnson, Prifrel, Langley, H. R. Anderson, Cina
Vote: 96 - yes 30 - no 5 - not voting

CIVIL
SERVICE
SYSTEM
BILLS

VETERANS PREFERENCE - DEFEATED

This bill modified Veterans Preference based on recommendations of the Interim Committee on the Civil Service Program, regarding Veterans Preference.

Senate File # 950

Authors: Wefald, Root
Vote: League supported this bill but it never got out of committee.

House File # 1120

Authors: Parks, H. J. Anderson
Vote: This bill was voted to be indefinitely postponed (same as killed) in committee.

RELATING TO THE DIRECTOR - PASSED

A bill vacating the office of director of Civil Service and providing for his appointment by the governor with consent of the Senate. Senate amended to appointment by the Board, six year term, and no examination required if reappointed. The League opposed this bill because it did not provide for selection through competitive examination and the director was not given tenure.

Senate File # 32

Authors: Vukelich, Rogers, E. Peterson
Vote: No vote taken on Senate File 32 but did vote for substitute House File # 158.
54 - yes 0 - no

House File #158

Authors: Rutter, Dunn, Cina, Fugina, Dirlam
Vote: 97 - yes 15 - no

SENATE VOTES

Votes were taken in the Senate on Constitutional Convention, Fair Employment Practices, and Civil Service bills, relating to the director. Votes were not taken on Reapportionment, Party Designation, and Civil Service bills relating to Veterans Preference.

Senators	Cau- cus	Dis- trict	Cons.		Civil Serv.	Senators	Cau- cus	Dis- trict	Cons.		Civil Serv.
			Conv.	FEP					Conv.	FEP	
			SF	SF	HF				SF	SF	HF
			23	722	158				23	722	158
Andersen, E.L.	C	42	Y	Y	Y	Masek	C	39	N	Y	Y
Anderson, A.A.	C	11	N	N	Y	Malone	C	17	N	Y	Y
Anderson, E.J.	C	7	N	N	Y	Mayhood	C	31	N	Y	Y
Anderson, M.H.	L	32	Y	Y	Y	Metcalf	C	21	N	N	Y
Behmler	C	48	N	N	Y	Miller	C	36	N	NV	Y
Bonniwell	L	22	Y	Y	Y	Mitchell	C	55	N	NV	Y
Burdick	C	4	N	Y		Mullin	C	35	Y	Y	
Butler	C	57	N	Y	Y	Murray	L	66	N	Y	Y
Carr	L	59	N	Y		Nelson	C	16	Y	Y	Y
Child	C	24	N	NV		Novak	L	38	N	Y	Y
Dunlap	C	3	N	N	Y	Nycklemoe	L	50	Y	Y	
Erickson	C	9	N	N	Y	O'Brien	C	52	N	Y	
Feidt	C	34	N	NV	Y	O'Loughlin	C	40	Y	NV	Y
Franz	C	10	N	Y	Y	Olson	L	23	Y	Y	
Fraser	L	29	Y	Y	Y	Peterson	L	60	Y	Y	Y
George	C	19	N	Y	Y	Quie	C	18	Y	Y	Y
Gillen	C	20	Y	Y		Richardson	C	45	N	Y	Y
Hanson, N.W.	L	54	Y	Y	Y	Rogers	C	58	N	NV	Y
Hanson, R.	C	6	Y	Y	Y	Root	C	33	N	Y	Y
Harren	C	46	N	N		Rosenmeier	C	53	N	Y	Y
Heuer	L	51	Y	Y	Y	Salmore	L	43	Y	Y	Y
Holand	C	5	N	NV	Y	Schultz	L	37	Y	Y	
Holmquist	C	26	Y	Y	Y	Sinclair	C	67	N	Y	Y
Imm	C	8	N	N	Y	Vadheim	C	12	Y	Y	Y
Johnson, C.E.	L	56	Y	Y	Y	Vukelich	L	61	Y	Y	
Johnson, J.A.	C	1	N	N	Y	Wahlstrand	C	25	Y	NV	Y
Johnson, R.W.	L	44	Y	Y	Y	Walz	L	63	Y	Y	
Josefson	C	13	N	Y	Y	Wefald	C	49	N	Y	Y
Kalina	L	28	Y	Y	Y	Welch	C	27	N	Y	Y
Keller	C	2	N	Y	Y	Westin	C	41	Y	Y	Y
Kroehler	C	15	N	Y	Y	Wiseth	L	65	Y	Y	
Larson	C	64	N	Y	Y	Wright	C	30	N	Y	Y
Lofvegren	C	47	N	Y	Y	Zwach	C	14	N	Y	Y
McKee	C	62	N	N	Y						

Y - yes
N - no
NV - no vote

HOUSE VOTES

Votes were taken in the House on Reapportionment, Party Designation, Fair Employment Practices, and Civil Service bill relating to office of director. Votes were not taken on Constitutional Convention and a Civil Service bill relating to Veterans Preference.

<u>Representative</u>	<u>Caucus</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Reapportionment</u> <u>HF279</u>	<u>Party</u> <u>Design.</u> <u>HF12</u>	<u>FEPC</u> <u>HF778</u>	<u>Civil</u> <u>Service</u> <u>HF158</u>
Adams, James L.	L	31	Y	Y	Y	Y
Affeldt, Sr., Leland A.	L	66	Y	Y	Y	Y
Alderink, George	C	55	N	N	NV	Y
Allen, Claude H.	C	42	Y		Y	
Anderson, Delbert F.	C	47	N	N	N	N
Anderson, Floyd R.	L	58	N	Y	Y	Y
Anderson, G. A.	L	48	N	N	Y	Y
Anderson, Harold J.	C	33	Y	Y	Y	Y
Anderson, Harold R.	C	15	N	Y	Y	N
Anderson, Moppy	C	1	N	N	N	Y
Aune, Ole O. Jr.	C	50	N	N	Y	Y
Basford, Harry	L	63	N	Y	N	NV
Bassett, Wayne R.	L	11	Y	Y	Y	Y
Battles, Everett	L	67	Y	Y	Y	Y
Beanblossom, Sheldon	C	37	Y	N	Y	Y
Bergerud, Alf	C	36	Y	Y	Y	NV
Bergeson, Burnett J.	L	64	N	N	Y	Y
Berglund, Elmer E.	L	62	Y	Y	Y	Y
Biernat, Ted L.	L	28	Y	Y	Y	Y
Campton, Chas. E.	L	57	Y	N	Y	
Chilgren, E. J.	L	62	N	Y	Y	Y
Christie, Thomas N.	C	30	Y	Y	Y	N
Cina, Fred A.	L	61	Y	Y	Y	
Clark, Otto E.	C	47	N	N	N	Y
Conroy, Dan	L	48	N	N	Y	Y
Cummings, Roy H.	C	11	N	N	Y	
Cunningham, Lawrence	C	12	N	N	Y	N
Dahle, Omar C.	C	16	N	N	N	Y
Day, Walter E.	L	65	Y	N	Y	NV
Dirlam, Aubrey	C	14	N	N	Y	Y
Dunn, Roy E.	C	50	N	Y	Y	Y
Duxbury, Lloyd	C	1	N	Y	N	N
Eck, Carl W.	L	44	Y	Y	Y	Y
Eddy, Paul L.	C	27	N	N	N	Y
Enestvedt, Odean	L	23	Y	N	Y	Y
Erdahl, L. B.	C	7	N	N	Y	Y
Ernst, Emil C.	C	22	Y	Y	Y	Y
Fitzsimons, Richard W.	C	67	N	N	Y	Y
Franz, Sam	L	10	N	N	Y	Y
Freeman, G. W.	C	5	N	N	Y	Y
French, George	C	33	Y	Y	Y	N
Fugina, Peter X.	L	61	Y	Y	Y	Y
Fuller, Graham	C	12	N	N	N	N
Gallagher, Frank X	L	20	Y	N	Y	Y
Goodin, H. P. (Pat)	L	35	Y	Y	Y	
Graba, Clifford C.	L	51	N	Y	Y	Y
Grant, George E.	L	55	N	N	Y	Y
Grittner, Karl F.	L	39	Y	Y	Y	Y
Grussing, George	C	24	N	N	NV	Y

<u>Representative</u>	<u>Caucus</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Reapportionment HF279</u>	<u>Party Desig. HF12</u>	<u>FEPC HF778</u>	<u>Civil Service HF158</u>
Hagland, Carl G.	L	31	Y	Y	Y	Y
Halsted, Chas. L.	L	53	Y	N	Y	Y
Hartle, John A.	C	16	Y	Y	Y	N
Herzog, Jacob J.	L	5	Y	N	Y	Y
Hofstad, Alvin O.	L	24	N	N	Y	Y
Howard, John F.	C	43	Y	N	Y	Y
Hussong, Louis H.	C	10	N	N	NV	Y
Iverson, Carl M.	L	48	N	N	N	Y
Jensen, Carl A.	C	14	N	Y	N	N
Johnson, Alfred I.	L	25	Y	Y	Y	Y
Johnson, Erwin P.	L	49	N	N	Y	Y
Johnson, O. L.	C	54		N	N	Y
Karas, Joe	C	56	N	N	Y	Y
Karth, Joe	L	41	Y	Y	Y	Y
Kelley, Jerry	L	37	Y	Y	Y	NV
Kennedy, R. B.	C	14	N	N	NV	Y
Kinzer, John J.	C	46		N	N	
Knudsen, Eugene P.	L	25	N	Y	Y	Y
Kording, Herman J.	L	32	Y	Y	Y	Y
LaBrosse, Francis	L	59	Y	Y	Y	
Langen, Odin E. S.	C	67	N	N	Y	N
Langley, Clarence G.	C	19	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lindquist, Leonard E.	C	36	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lovik, A. W.	L	63	N	N	Y	Y
Lund, Joyce	L	3	Y	N	Y	Y
Luther, Sally	L	30	Y	Y	Y	Y
McCarty, Glenn D.	C	34	Y	Y	Y	N
McGill, John D.	L	2	Y	N	Y	Y
McGuire, Michael	L	17	Y	N	Y	Y
McLeod, Donald	C	2	N	N	N	Y
Madden, Leo D.	C	4	Y	N	N	Y
Madden, Ralph	C	13	N	N	N	Y
Moriarty, Michael	C	21	Y	Y	Y	
Mosier, Leo D.	L	35	Y	Y	Y	Y
Mueller, August B.	C	15	Y	N	N	Y
Munger, Willard M.	L	59	Y	Y	Y	Y
Nordlie, O. Gerhard	C	26	N	N	N	Y
Noreen, Roger F.	C	57	Y	N	Y	Y
Oberg, A. F.	C	56	Y	N	Y	Y
O'Dea, Richard W.	L	43	Y	Y	Y	
Ogle, Arthur	C	8	Y	Y	N	Y
Olson, Carl G.	L	9	N	N	Y	Y
Ottinger, Howard	C	21	N	N	N	
Otto, Alfred	L	40		Y	Y	
Parks, Clifton	C	42	Y	Y	Y	Y
Paskewitz, Albert	L	51	N	N	Y	Y
Peterson, Oscar O.	C	13	N	N	N	Y
Phillips, Seth R.	L	52	Y	N	Y	NV
Podgorski, Anthony	L	38	Y	Y	Y	Y
Popovich, Peter S.	L	40	Y	Y	Y	Y
Prifrel, Joseph	L	38	Y	Y	Y	Y
Reed, Dewey	L	45	Y	N	NV	Y
Rutter, Loren S.	L	60	Y	Y	Y	Y
Schenck, Ely R.	C	49	N	N	Y	N
Schulz, Roy	C	8	Y	Y	N	Y
Schumann, Marvin C.	C	45	N	N	Y	N

<u>Representative</u>	<u>Cau- cus</u>	<u>Dis- trict</u>	<u>Reappor- tionment HF279</u>	<u>Party Desig. HF12</u>	<u>FEPC HF778</u>	<u>Civil Service HF158</u>
Schwanke, Fred W.	C	53	Y	N	N	Y
Shipka, Vladimir	L	52	Y	Y	Y	Y
Shovell, Bill	L	41	Y	Y	Y	Y
Skeate, John P.	L	29	Y	Y	Y	Y
Skoog, Evert A.	C	53	N	N	N	NV
Sorensen, Wm.	L	48	N	Y	Y	Y
Sundet, O. A.	C	18	N	N	N	N
Swenson, Glen	C	27		N	N	Y
Talle, Irwin M.	C	6	N	N	N	Y
Thompson, Teman	C	1	N	N	N	Y
Tiemann, Edmund C.	L	46	Y	N	Y	Y
Tomczyk, Edward	L	28	Y	Y	Y	Y
Tweten, Reuben H.	C	66	N	N	N	N
Ukkelberg, Cliff	C	50	N	N	Y	Y
Van De Riet, G. J.	C	9	N	N	N	Y
Volstad, Edward J.	L	32	Y	Y	Y	Y
Voxland, Roy L.	C	19	N	N	N	NV
Wanvick, Arne C.	L	58	N	Y	Y	Y
Wee, Reuben	L	12	N	N	Y	Y
Wegner, Carl O.	C	29	Y	Y	Y	NV
Wichterman, B. M.	L	65	N	Y	Y	Y
Widstrand, Paul S.	L	60	Y	Y	Y	Y
Windmiller, E. J.	C	50	N	Y	Y	Y
Wozniak, D. D.	L	39	Y	Y	Y	Y
Wright, F. Gordon	C	34	Y	Y	Y	Y
Yetka, Lawrence	L	54	Y	Y	Y	Y

MINNESOTA CITIZENS CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE

MAR 8 - 1957

March 8, 1957

PR F2 D4B 10a

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7-7

Dear Friend:

The first hurdle has been overcome - the House General Legislation Committee voted for the Constitutional Convention bill to pass 11 to 6 with 2 passes.

The next hurdle - and this is a big one - is the Senate Judiciary Committee's action. I thought you would like to know that this Committee will hear testimony on the Constitutional Convention bill (S.F. 135) on Thursday, March 14. The proponents will appear from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.; the opponents will appear 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. This is an extremely early hour - no one knows it better than your Chairman who will testify at 8:00 a.m. - but, nevertheless, please let me emphasize how important it is for supporters of this bill to demonstrate their interest by being on hand.

Meanwhile, please communicate with the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee before March 14. I am sure that all you know how very significant letters, phone calls and personal contacts are. Letters to the chairman, Senator Welch, the authors Senators Holmquist (C,26) E.L. Andersen (C,26) and Harold Schultz (L,37) will be extremely useful. Letters to any of your own Senators on the Committee are, of course, an absolute necessity. The members of the Senate Judiciary Committee are:

Welch, Chm. C,27	Kalina L,28	O'Loughlin C,40
Dunlap C,3	Masek C,39	Root C,33
Erickson C,9	Miller C,36	Rosenmeier C,53
Feidt C,34	Mitchell C,55	Schultz L,37
Fraser L,29	Mullin C,35	Wefald C,49
Gillen C,20	Nelson, H. C,16	Wright C,30
Hanson, R. C,6	Nycklemoe L,50	

C - Conservative L - Liberal Number - legislative district

No one can yet say what the fate of the Constitutional Convention bill will be. However, I am willing to venture an opinion that if enough of us let our representatives and senators know we want it, we will get it.

Sincerely yours,

Donald A. Holmes
Donald A. Holmes
Chairman

LET'S TRY A NEW APPROACH!

Two things that will influence a legislator are: 1. What he reads in the newspapers from home; and 2. What he hears from his constituents. . . .

1. Here is a list of key legislators and the newspapers that will influence them. You can't make the news - but you can:

- a. Write a Letter to the Editor
- b. Alert your members to write a Letter to the Editor
- c. If your Editor favors Constitutional Convention, ask him to comment editorially
- d. Contact everyone you know who lives in one of these critical districts, and ask them to write the Editor of their papers.

2. What he hears from his constituents.

- a. Get as many people in your community as you can to write to your legislator.
- b. If your League is listed as the closest one to a legislator who represents a non-League district - find people in his district to write to him.
- c. Telegrams sent to your legislator marked for delivery while a Bill is under debate in committee or on the floor of the House or Senate are most effective. Encourage those you know in non-League areas to send telegrams, too.

* * * * *

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL LEGISLATION WHO PASSED OR VOTED "NO"

<u>Name</u>	<u>Vote in Comm.</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Counties & Dist.</u>	<u>Newspapers in his Dist. (See Key Below)</u>
ALDERINK Geo. (C)	No	Pease	Mille Lacs Kanabec Sherburne (55)	<u>Elk River - Star News*</u> <u>Clear Lake - Times</u> <u>Isle - Messenger</u> <u>Onamia - Independent</u> <u>Milaca - Times</u> <u>Princeton - Union</u> <u>Mora - Times</u> <u>Ogilvie - Sentinel</u>
		NEAREST LEAGUE - ST. CLOUD BRAINERD		

2.

Name	Vote in Comm.	Home	Counties & Dist.	Newspapers in his Dist. (See Key Below)
ENESVEDT Odear (C)	No	Sacred Heart	Renville Futchinson McLeod (23)	Renville - Star Farmer* (approved Const. Conv.) <u>Bird Island - Union*</u> Sacred Heart - News Olivia - Times-Journal Franklin - Tribune Fairfax - Standard <u>Hector - Mirror</u> Buffalo Lake - News Danube - Enterprise
NEAREST LEAGUE - GRANITE FALLS OLIVIA				
FITZSIMONS Richard A. (C)	No	Argyle	Marshall (67)	Argyle - Banner <u>Warren - Sheaf</u> <u>Middle River - Record</u>
NEAREST LEAGUE - BEMIDJI				
(Voted "no" because of possible unfavorable re- apportionment.)				
IVERSON Carl (L)	No	Ashby	Grant (48)	Hoffman - Tribune* Herman - Review <u>Elbow Lake - Herald</u>
NEAREST LEAGUE - ALEXANDRIA FERGUS FALLS				
LOVIK A.W. (C)	Pass	Park Rapids League	Fubbard (63)	<u>Park Rapids - Enterprise*</u> Nevis News
(He has reordered "State You're In" 3 times - if they wish to refer to it.)				
THOMPSON H. (C)	Pass	Staples	Todd (51)	Clarissa - Independent* Proverville - Blade <u>Bertha - Herald</u> <u>Staples - World</u> <u>Long Prairie - Leader</u> Grey Eagle - Gazette
NEAREST LEAGUE - BRAINERD ALEXANDRIA				
THOMPSON T. (C)	No	Lanesboro	Fillmore (1)	Lanesboro - Leader* Chatfield - News Rushford - Tri-County Record <u>Spring Valley - Tribune</u> <u>Preston - Republican</u> Harmony - News Mabel - Record
("No" because of danger of unfavorable reapportionment)				
NEAREST LEAGUE - AUSTIN ROCHESTER				

Name	Vote in Comm.	Home	3. Counties & Dist.	Newspapers in his Dist. (See Key Below)
WINDMILLER E.J. (C)	no	Fergus Falls (League)	Otter Tail (50)	Fergus Falls - Journal (D) Battle Lake - Review Henning - Advocate N. Y. Mills - Herald Parker's Prairie - Ind. Pelican Rapids - Press Perham - Enterprise-Bulletin

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SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE - VOTE LAST SESSION

WEICH Thos. P. Chrmn. (C)	No	Buffalo (League)	Wright (27)	Buffalo - Journal-Press* Monticello - Times* Annandale - Advocate Cokato - Enterprise Delano - Eagle Howard Lake - Herald Maple Lake - Messenger Waverly - Star
DUNLAP Robt. R. (C)	No	Plainview	Wabasha (3)	Zumbro Falls - Enterprise* Plainview - News Lake City - Graphic Mazeppa - Journal Wabasha - Herald
NEAREST LEAGUE - RED WING ROCHESTER				
ERICKSON Chris L. (C)	No	Fairmont	Martin (9)	Sherburn - Advance Standard* Truman - Tribune Triumph-Monterey - Progress Fairmont - Sentinel (D) Ceylon - Herald Welcome - Times
NEAREST LEAGUE - JACKSON WELLS				
HANSON R. (C)	Yes	Albert Lea	Freeborn (16)	Alden - Advance Albert Lea - Tribune (D) Clenville - Progress Emmons - Leader*
NEAREST LEAGUE - WELLS AUSTIN OWATONNA WASECA				
MILLER Archie (C)	No	Hopkins (Leagues in Dist.) Bloomington L. Deephaven L. Edina L. Excelsior L. Golden Valley L. Mound L. Richfield L. St. Louis Park L. Wayzata L.	Hennepin (36)	Bloomington - Sun* Deephaven - Argus* Edina-Mngside, Courier* Excelsior-Mtka. Record* Hopkins-Henn. Co. Review* Mound - Pilot* Osseo - Press G. Valley - Sub. Press* Wayzata-Mtka. - Herald Richfield-Bloomington News* Robinsdale-N. Henn-Post* St. Louis Park - Dispatch*

Name	Vote in Comm.	Home	4. Counties & Dist.	Newspapers in his Dist. (See Key Below)
MITCHELL C. C. (C)	Yes	Princeton	Mille Lacs Kanabec Sherburne (55)	<u>Elk River - Star News*</u> <u>Clear Lake - Times</u> <u>Isle - Messenger</u> <u>Onamia - Independent</u> <u>Milaca - Times</u> <u>Princeton - Union</u> <u>Mora - Times</u> <u>Cecilvie - Sentinel</u>
NEAREST LEAGUE - ST CLOUD BRAINERD				
NELSON H. (C)	Yes	Owatonna (League)	Taseca Steele (16)	<u>Owatonna - People's Press (D)*</u> <u>Owatonna - Photo-News</u> <u>Blooming Prairie - Times</u> <u>Ellendale - Eagle</u>
NYCKLEMOE Henry (L)	Yes	Fergus Falls (League)	Otter Tail (50)	<u>Fergus Falls - Journal (D)</u> <u>Battle Lake - Review</u> <u>Henning - Advocate</u> <u>N. Y. Mills - Herald</u> <u>Parker's Prairie - Independent</u> <u>Pelican Rapids - Press</u> <u>Perham - Enterprise-Bulletin</u>
ROSENMEIER Gordon (C)	No	Little Falls	Crow Wing Morrison (53)	<u>Brainerd - Dispatch (D)*</u> <u>Brainerd - Review*</u> <u>Crosby-Ironton - Courier*</u> <u>Little Falls - Transcript (D)</u> <u>Pierz - Journal*</u> <u>Royalton - Banner</u> <u>Swanville - News*</u> <u>Upsala - News-Tribune</u>
NEAREST LEAGUE - BRAINERD				
WEFALD Magnus (C)	No	Hawley	Clay Wilken (49)	<u>Barnesville - Record Review</u> <u>Hawley - Herald</u> <u>Moorhead - News (D)*</u> <u>Moorhead - Red River Scene</u> <u>Ulen - Union</u> <u>Freckenridge - Gazette-Tel.</u> <u>Rothsay - Argus*</u>
NEAREST LEAGUE - MOORHEAD				
WILLEN Arthur (C)	Yes	S. St. Paul	Dakota (20)	<u>S. St. Paul - Reporter</u> <u>S. St. Paul - Booster*</u> <u>Hastings - Gazette</u> <u>Farmington - Tribune</u>

5.

MINNEAPOLIS

FEIDT
Dan (C) No

FRASER
Donald (L) Yes

KALINA
Harold (L) Yes

MINNEAPOLIS STAR & TRIBUNE*

MULLIN
G. T. (C) Yes

ROOT
C. W. (C) No

WRIGHT
Donald (C) No

ST. PAUL

MASEY
J. P. (C) Yes

O'LOUGHLIN
H. J. (C) Yes

ST. PAUL PIONEER-PRESS & DISPATCH*

SCHULTZ
H. W. (L) Yes

* * * * *

KEY: (D) - Published Daily
* - Papers which have used state League releases or
wire service news at least once.

Largest papers are underlined.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15th and Washington Avenue S.E. Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

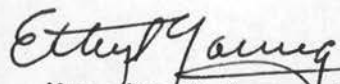
Federal 8-8791

March 29, 1957

We appreciate your reply to the question about your position on a Convention to revise Minnesota's Constitution. Because of your concern with the subject, we are enclosing a reprint of a League of Women Voters bulletin which has information relating to the cost of constitutional conventions and the amount of litigation resulting from them. Usually, these are matters of particular interest to businessmen.

For ten years the League of Women Voters has been studying problems relating to the revision of Minnesota's Constitution. The purpose of our organization is to increase the citizen's understanding of and participation in government.

Yours sincerely,


Mrs. Basil Young, President



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

STATEMENT OF

DONALD A. HOLMES

Before Senate Judiciary Committee

March 14, 1957

8:00 A. M.

Room 238, State Capitol

IDENTIFICATION.

Live at 4922 Aldrich Avenue South, Minneapolis 9.

Lawyer - about 27 years.

Chairman - Minnesota Citizens Constitutional Committee.

Chairman - Minnesota State Bar Association Committee
on Nonprofit Corporation Laws.

Member - Bar Association Committee on Business, Cor-
poration and Banking Laws.

Member - Bar Association Committee on Legislation.

QUESTION TO BE COVERED.

My remarks will be limited primarily to the problem of
whether a complete revision of the Constitution is
likely to increase litigation.

REMARKS.

I appear here not only as an interested citizen but also as
Chairman of the Minnesota Citizens Constitutional Committee. It must be
distinctly understood that I do not speak for the Bar Association, which
I mention only because my work on its committees has a direct bearing on
the question I wish to discuss.

Preliminarily, may I say that, to me, it is a foregone conclusion
that the Legislature has almost a mandate, or to use the language of the
Constitution, it is now required "to think it necessary", to pass S.F. 135
and H.F. 289 in order to afford the people of this state an opportunity -
for the first time in 100 years - to decide whether they wish to revise the
Constitution. In October, 1948, the Legislature's own Commission said
revision was necessary. The "Little Hoover" Commission said the same thing.
A federal Commission has indicated the need. Outstanding professors at the
University have for years pointed out the necessity for revision. Many
citizen groups have supported the project. Both political parties, in
convention assembled, have for many years found the necessity and adopted
specific planks to that end. There is therefore, competent and overwhelm-
ing evidence that the question of revision should be submitted to the people
by the Legislature. In fact, with such evidence before it, it seems to me
that the Legislature would be remiss in its duty under the Constitution if
it fails to afford the people the opportunity to vote on the question.

Would an increased amount of litigation or confusion result from
a complete revision? In my opinion it would not. Justice Leroy E. Matson
of our Supreme Court has checked directly with the Chief Justices in New
Jersey and Missouri where complete revisions were accomplished in recent
years, and in both cases, the clear and unequivocal answer was that litiga-
tion had not increased. There is even some evidence that litigation decreased
in Missouri. The reason is obvious - a new constitution drawn under condi-
tions of today, rather than 100 years ago, eliminates the need for litigation
to determine the meaning and scope of an old document.

Allow me to quote briefly from a letter written by Justice Matson of our Supreme Court on August 27, 1956:

"It is my considered opinion that the adoption of a new Constitution for the state of Minnesota will cause neither confusion nor increased litigation. A new Constitution, because it has been drafted to meet present-day needs, gives materially less occasion for litigation to determine its meaning and scope than does an old Constitution. An old Constitution, with many amendatory patches, is materially more fruitful of ambiguity conducive to litigation than a new Constitution drafted in the light of modern conditions.

The above conclusions apply not only to litigation to test the validity of legislative acts enacted subsequent to the adoption of a new Constitution but also to litigation challenging the constitutionality of statutory enactments which were in existence prior to the adoption of such new Constitution. The experience of other states has been that existing statutes are not challenged any more frequently under a new Constitution than they would have been under the old Constitution."

In my own personal experience in drafting the new Non-profit Corporation Code which was adopted by the Legislature in 1951, no litigation has resulted. There we repealed laws going back 100 years which had, by amendment, grown into a hodge-podge and replaced them with a modern, well integrated Code.

The same thing can be said about the Probate Code and the Business Corporation Code which affect the daily lives of all our citizens even more closely than a Constitution does. No one can say that those complete revisions of basic old laws have stimulated or increased litigation or created confusion.

I firmly believe that complete revisions have less potential for litigation than changes made by piecemeal amendments. In a revision, the Code or document is carefully correlated and integrated in all its parts - amendments, on the other hand, are oftentimes appendages which create problems incidental to their main purpose.

Finally, it seems to me that a convention can do the best job of making a complete revision. It will be able to hold hearings, have the advice of many experts and non-experts, and more particularly, have the assistance of well-qualified draftsmen. I know that some of you disagree with me and favor only the amendatory process. I do not think that you actually disagree with me on the point that from a legal standpoint, a superior document results from complete revision than results from partial amendments. Rather - you disagree because you fear the capacity and qualifications of the draftsman - namely, the convention. As to the Bill before you, this fear is not well founded - first, because the Bill before you does not create a convention (the draftsman) but only allows the people to decide (a) whether the Constitution needs revision and (b) whether a convention is competent to do the job - and second, your disagreement, based on fear, loses all foundation when you realize that if a convention came into being, a vast majority of its members would be those who are now in the Legislature. Surely you do not mistrust yourselves. A third reason occurs to me which overshadows all others when it comes to dispelling fear - inherent faith in our democratic processes where the people may freely express themselves at the polls without hindrance from anyone.

Thank you for your attention, and again, may I urge the passage of the Bill under consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Donald A. Holmes

LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA MUNICIPALITIES
15 University of Minnesota Library
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

March 1957

Revised September, 1957

TOWARD MORE EFFECTIVE HOME RULE

(The Case for the Proposed Constitutional Amendment on
Local Government, Laws 1957, Ch. 809)

General Nature of the Amendment

Laws 1957, Ch. 809 proposes to submit to the people a constitutional amendment on local government which would replace all of the existing sections of the constitution dealing with that subject. It would thus supersede the provisions dealing with special legislation (insofar as local governments are concerned), home rule for cities, city-county consolidation, and a few miscellaneous sections.

The proposal is based upon the recommendations of the 1948 constitutional commission on this same subject, though it abridges the commission's draft article and substantially modifies its provisions in the field of special legislation. In general, the amendment proposes to revamp and make more realistic the restrictions on special legislation, to broaden and make more flexible the provisions for home rule charters, and to provide for the organization of city-counties and for city-county consolidation through local charter action.

As originally introduced the bill was sponsored by the League of Minnesota Municipalities which adopted a resolution at the June 1956 convention recommending submission of such an amendment. Because the bill was substantially revised in the course of enactment, the proposed amendment in its final form will be subjected to study by League study committees and appropriate action with reference to the amendment taken at the legislative conference to be held as part of the annual convention in Minneapolis in June 1958. While the League is officially concerned only with cities and villages, the proposed amendment is not confined to municipal corporations since it was felt that the proposal of the constitutional commission on which it is based was not properly divisible.

SPECIAL LEGISLATION

History of Present Provision

Since 1892 the Minnesota Constitution has contained provisions prohibiting special legislation dealing with local governments. The division of cities into four classes and the adoption of laws relating to a single class of such cities were permitted by the home rule amendment of 1896, but otherwise the legislature may not pass special laws. It may, however, adopt laws which are general in form but special in application, if the criteria used for classifying the local units to which each law applies are germane to the purpose of the law. The legislature has therefore adopted the practice of classifying local units according to assessed valuation, population and area, or other criteria, on the assumption

that laws thus passed are constitutional. Actually many laws adopted each session violate the special legislation prohibition of the constitution and would be declared invalid if there were enough interest in them to warrant a court test.

In the years immediately prior to the adoption of the 1892 amendment the legislature passed so many special laws each session that publication of a separate volume of special laws was required in addition to a somewhat smaller volume of general laws. The practice of adopting laws which are general in form but special in application has grown in recent years so that if all of these laws were put together, a small volume would now be required for the session's output. By quick actual count, the special laws enacted at the 1957 session alone (Omitting laws relating to local courts) totaled at least 269 (27% of the session output); 150 for counties, 116 for cities and villages, 30 for school districts, and 18 for other units. Fifty years earlier special laws aggregated 44 or 9% of the session output. In general, there has been an increase from session to session in the total number of special laws.

Among the objections to the present system are the following:

1. Reliance upon the legislature for special acts weakens local government and tends toward the eventual destruction of home rule.
2. The passage of special laws is time-consuming for the legislature. The limited time of the session could more profitably be spent in the consideration of general legislative policy.
3. There is an increasing tendency toward putting laws in special form in order to avoid the difficulty of selling the legislature on a general policy; yet in many cases, what is considered desirable for a single unit would be obviously good practice as a general law. Conversely, what would not be adopted as a general policy because unsound is countenanced when limited in its application to a single political subdivision.
4. General legislative deliberation on special bills is almost lacking in most cases. If a bill is agreeable to the legislators from the district affected and has been approved by the governing body of the local government unit concerned, the bill is generally not opposed by other legislators, because they are not directly concerned.
5. Under the present practice special legislation is necessarily so obscurely digested that it is almost impossible to find if one does not know of its existence. Because the name of the unit does not appear and because special laws are omitted from the revisor's compilations of the statutes, a search for one is often like looking for a needle in a haystack. This situation will become worse and worse as time goes on and eventually will become intolerable.
6. Furthermore, the application of laws intended to be local changes with changes in valuation and population. A number of laws are made necessary every session merely to correct past classifications; others are not corrected but are used as if they still applied.

Special Legislation under the Proposed Constitutional Amendment

Under the proposed amendment, the adoption of a special law (defined to include any law applying to a single unit of government or to a group of such units in a single county or in a number of contiguous counties) would be subject to three restrictions:

- (1) The law must name the local government to which it applies. The present system of concealed identification could be expected to be eliminated after adoption of the amendment since no purpose would be served by continuing this subterfuge.
- (2) Except in instances specified by general law, a special law could not become effective without the approval of the local unit. This approval would be given either by the voters or by the local governing body as the legislature may direct. The legislature may also specify the majority required for this approval. If it finds that there are certain situations, such as emergencies, where a special law should go into effect without local approval, it must provide for this as a matter of general policy, i.e., by general law; it may not dispense with this requirement in a particular case by a provision in the special law alone.

While it is customary now to require a resolution from the local governing body before the appropriate committee of the legislature takes action on a local bill, this is by no means an invariable rule. Furthermore, local approval precedes rather than follows adoption and does not necessarily relate to the form of the law as finally adopted. In implementing the requirement for local approval, the legislature might provide for public hearings after published notice and it might otherwise regulate the procedure for expressing local consent.

- (3) A special law could be modified or superseded by a subsequently adopted charter or amendment. Thus, a new charter might rid a city of accumulated special laws which now seriously restrict the scope of effective charter action; and voters would have a direct remedy (by petitioning for a charter amendment) if a special law were unacceptable to them. Thus while the amendment would make special legislation for a local unit legally possible, the governing body and the people would have the means to prevent it.

If adopted, the amendment thus will end the subterfuges of present practice, will permit the legislature to pass a special law frankly and openly, but will provide an opportunity for local government action either to prevent a special law from going into effect or to repeal it through the home rule process or otherwise. Thus, use of the home rule charter method would be thereby encouraged.

The amendment specifically continues Article 4, Section 33, in its application to special laws which do not relate to local government.

HOME RULE CHARTERS

Present Provisions

Article 4, Section 36 of the present constitution, adopted in 1896, permits any city or village to adopt a home rule charter for its government as a city

consistent with the laws of the state. About 86 cities now operate under home rule charters. There is no similar right for counties.

Weaknesses of Present System

Partly because the present amendment is so detailed - it is the longest single section in the constitution - the existing provision has a number of admitted defects and a number of other features which are considered by many observers to be weaknesses. Among them are the following:

1. The unrepresentative character of charter commissions. Minnesota charter commissions are chosen by the judges of the district court and are not in any strict sense responsible to the electorate. In every other home rule state charter commissions are elected by the voters.
2. Anomalous distinctions between procedure on original charter submission and on amendments. The present constitution permits the submission of an original charter without any publication and authorizes its approval by a 4/7 vote of those voting at the election; amendments are authorized upon a 3/5 vote but must be published for four consecutive weeks in a local newspaper.
3. The severity of vote requirements. The vote requirements are higher than in any other state in the country; all others permit adoption by a bare majority of those voting on the question or at the election. The present rules have unquestionably encouraged the use of special legislation, especially in the larger cities where the 60% vote is very burdensome and difficult to secure. Furthermore, the constitution requires that the vote be calculated on the basis of those who vote at the election. A four-to-three Supreme Court decision has eased this requirement in the case of state elections by declaring that a special election held at the same time is a separate election; but this rule is of doubtful application to submissions at the same time as municipal elections and hangs by a slender thread even in other cases.
4. Submission of charter within six months. The constitution requires that a charter be submitted by the charter commission within six months of its creation. This is unduly restrictive and unnecessary and is, out of necessity, generally ignored. There is no similar requirement applying to charter revisions.
5. Rigidity of provision requiring charter to go into effect 30 days after election. Sometimes charter commissions wish to defer part of the charter in order to round out existing terms or for some other reason. There is no reason for a constitutional rule on this point.
6. Expense of recording charter in full in county register of deeds office. This requirement of the present constitution means that the charter must be copied by the register of deeds. This is clearly non-constitutional material and should preferably be left to statute.
7. Lack of power to abandon or adopt second charter. Under present constitutional provisions adoption of a home rule charter is irrevocable. A city can never do anything to the charter thereafter except to amend it.

Recognizing that under Minnesota doctrine, the legislature is supreme and may override the provisions of home rule charters, the proposed amendment merely guarantees the basic right to frame home rule charters in accordance with law and leaves details for subsequent legislation, even on such matters as the question of majorities required for adoption. The legislature may thus take account of experience and change the law to meet changing needs. The bill would also permit abandonment of a charter and the return to organization under legislative enabling act. Thus the constitutional amendment would eliminate all of the above-mentioned claimed defects of the present system or would permit their elimination by legislative act. Furthermore, it would authorize the legislature to provide for county home rule, the need for which is made apparent by the profusion of present special laws for counties. As a matter of fact, the legislature might, under the amendment, provide for home rule for other units of government if this were found desirable. The county home rule provision would be made more flexible by repealing the present constitutional provision under which it is usually thought that all principal county officers must be elected.

The basic requirements of the home rule charter privilege provided in the proposed amendment are these:

1. The charter must provide for the government of the local government unit in accordance with the constitution and the laws.
2. At least a majority vote is required for popular approval of a charter.
3. The right of amendment through charter commission action or through petition of the voters is guaranteed.
4. The home rule power is continuous; furthermore, a charter may be abandoned.

Everything else is left to the legislature, including the adoption of an additional amending procedure. This would permit experimentation with some system like that of New York under which amendments on specified minor matters could be made by the local governing body after notice and hearing, perhaps subject to the right of referendum on petition. This authority might thus provide a practical method of eliminating some present charters of excessive detail and thus avoid any need for going to the legislature to accomplish this objective.

CITY-COUNTY CONSOLIDATION

Existing Provision

The only present provision is one which authorizes the legislature to organize any city into a separate county if it has 20,000 population. A favorable vote of a majority of the electors of the county in which the city is situated is necessary for separate organization. This provision has never been implemented by legislation.

Proposed Provision

The amendment eliminates the present provision but recognizes the possibility of consolidation or separation of a city and county (without constitutional limit on population) by home rule charter action. Here, to safeguard interests of the affected units, the proposed amendment requires approval of the voters both in the city and in the remainder of the county. The legislature would fix the majority required.

Under the amendment the legislature might also provide for county and city consolidation or separation by general or special law. However, the amendment prohibits the transfer of a county seat or a change of county boundaries without approval of a majority of the voters of each affected county voting on the proposal. A somewhat similar provision in the present constitution has been held to be no longer operative.

The proposal is thus more flexible than the present constitution, particularly in making possible under legislative authority the use of the home rule charter method of accomplishing partial or complete city-county separation or consolidation.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

The provision of the proposed amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for creation, organization, administration, consolidation, division, and dissolution of local government units and their functions, for change of boundaries and transfer of county seats merely states what the legislature could do anyway. The existing provision that counties and townships have such powers of local taxation as may be prescribed by law has been dropped; it is unnecessary and draws a confusing distinction between these subdivisions and other types of local government units.

SOME GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

In submitting the amendment, the legislature recognizes, as did the League of Minnesota Municipalities in sponsoring the proposal on which it is based, that the present system needs a complete overhauling. The minor changes that might be made in the existing home rule and special legislation provisions by more specific amendments are completely inadequate to do the job. The details in the present home rule charter provision are so extensive that nothing short of a major revision will suffice. Furthermore, the whole amendment proceeds on the assumption that a single package is required if the present system of state-local legislative relationships is to be properly corrected; special legislation provisions cannot be made more realistic without, at the same time, providing for a more workable home rule charter machinery; conversely, the home rule charter machinery will not be adequately used without increasing local responsibility for special legislation.

No one can honestly assert that the proposed amendment will in itself bring great changes in local government, or that the amendment is not subject to possible abuses. A perfect amendment cannot be drawn, but the proposal is a vast

improvement over the existing system; its adoption would be a substantial step forward in the field of state-local constitutional relations. To be really effective, however, it must be properly implemented by subsequent legislation; here the amendment gives the people and the legislature the necessary tools to provide for an effective and strong system of local government, containing substantial "home rule" options.

Orville C. Peterson
League Attorney

OCP:fc
9/12/57

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

Release: Wednesday, April 10
or thereafter

League President Attacks
State Senate Misuse
of Committee System

"The wither-on-the-vine school of handling lawmaking triumphed again Thursday, April 4th, when the State Senate Judiciary Committee once more refused to set a time to break the deadlock on the Constitutional Convention Bill," Mrs. Basil Young of Hibbing, President of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, charged today, speaking for the League.

"This is the second time members of this committee have ducked the duty of resolving the stalemate," she continued.

On March 26th, with two members absent, the committee voted 9 to 9 on killing the bill and, again 9 to 9, on sending it to the Senate floor by recommending it to pass. Therefore, the bill remained before the committee. On March 28th committee members, by moving adjournment, avoided setting a time for a revote. On April 4th the committee voted against setting a time for another vote.

"Such delaying tactics are an example of the State Senate's misuse of the committee system, which is designed to expedite legislation and distribute the workload effectively," Mrs. Young pointed out. "Instead, some of the Senate committee members are perverting this system to kill bills by stalling until it is too late for the Senate to act on them, or to hamstring bills by preventing deliberate consideration under the pressure of the closing days."

Among other important bills which have suffered from Senate committee delays are party designation and reapportionment, Mrs. Young concluded.

REAPPORTIONMENT

Legislative Report - 1957

May 1957

"The League of Women Voters has stirred this whole thing up." So said Rep. Carl Jensen of reapportionment on the floor of the House on March 29. This remark was followed by a reluctant tribute: "I suppose it's a good thing they did."

This quotation implies (1) reapportionment is an old problem; (2) something should be done about it; (3) the League has a role in that solution.

Reapportionment will surely come; just how and when will depend to some extent on League thought and action in the next two years. Like it or not, we are looked upon for leadership in the area. We have had much to say about it; we are a point of liaison for the growing number of forces interested in the subject; the fact that we come from both urban and rural areas gives our decision the great advantage of reflecting state-wide, not just a sectional, interest.

Reapportionment received an amazing amount of attention in the past legislative session. The object of this account will be less to tell a running story of the session, absorbing as it was, than to record certain facts which point up the present problem; and a few observations to guide us in the future.

CHANGE IN REAPPORTIONMENT PICTURE BETWEEN 1955 and 1957

SURGE OF INTEREST

The only evidence of increased interest in reapportionment since 1955 had been the federal court action of Mr. Farrell of St. Paul and fellow lawyers (asking that the 14th amendment and the Civil Rights measure be interpreted to apply "equal protection of the law" to legislative reapportionment). We were therefore totally unprepared for the rush of events in this session. The publicity in 1955 and the unexpected passage of the Bergerud bill through the House in that session had aroused the guardians of the status quo to new resistance; had moved the public in under-represented areas to a vocal bid for their rights; had alerted legislators that they must move quickly to settle this problem to the interests of their constituencies, and themselves.

THEY ASK US FOR HELP

Last session League lobbyists had felt an almost amused toleration from the opposition forces, and not much more than a consoling pat on the back from reapportionment's resigned friends. This year we were taken seriously; legislators came to us to talk. Unfortunately, our small lobbying group was quite inadequate to a major persuasion job. Also we were unprepared with the material that members of both committees kept asking for, and were constantly researching and writing as we went. (Perhaps this is the best place to point out that the map-coloring we had originally started for our own use, to portray the differences between the Bergerud-Gillen bill (hereinafter abbreviated as B-G) and the Sinclair-Rosenmeier districting, caught on like wildfire. We were soon coloring not only small maps, but large ones for committee use. This became a somewhat formidable task as the B-G bill went through its Senate metamorphosis, new maps becoming necessary after almost every committee meeting! Such quick visual-aid devices are particularly valuable for busy legislators, who must read while they run, who can look but not linger. A See-It-Yourself Kit for every legislator, with maps, charts, outlines would be an effective tool next session.)

SUPPORT FROM OTHERS

Although only a small portion of League effort was going into reapportionment this year, the lobby was much more effective because it had attracted numerous other supporters. This is certainly one of our main objectives in legislative action - to provide liaison with other forces.

Most publicized was the Bipartisan Committee (appointed by the two parties to work for a constitutional convention, party designation, and reapportionment). The mere existence of such a committee is of great value; with party designation the effect would be incalculable. Independent units of both parties testified (e.g., Young Republican League; suburban DFL groups). The Hennepin County Republican Workshop contributed not only testimony but mimeographing and the simply invaluable aid of Mrs. Betty Hess and Mrs. Margaret Schopmeyer. The Governor's Advisory Committee on Suburban Problems lent great support, particularly through Mayor Fernstrom of St. Louis Park. The metropolitan press could hardly have done better by our cause. Under skillful prodding by the League's active Public Relations committee, the out-state press devoted countless columns to reapportionment - some of which we used very effectively in lobbying.

LAWSUIT

The federal lawsuit mentioned above really lit a fire. Although the lawyers would have preferred waiting a few weeks until the fate of a similar Oklahoma suit had been decided in the Supreme Court, they put in countless hours preparing it for immediate filing, realizing its great pressure value. Frank Farrell, who headed these forces, was in constant consultation with all of us - enlisting Senator Gillen to champion the Bergerud bill in the Senate; advising, encouraging and evaluating the situation at every turn. His emphasis on the political immorality of the situation and his righteous indignation were a most salutary antidote to the "political reality" arguments with which we were constantly being bombarded.

AUTHORS

We were particularly fortunate as to authors. Both Bergerud and Gillen have expert knowledge of the subject. Both have enormous legislative "know-how". Mr. Bergerud, member of many important committees, constantly beleaguered by the problems of over 150,000 constituents from an area with acute growing pains, was nevertheless simply tireless in his reapportionment efforts. Only a man of his good humor and his resiliency could keep his balance in what is undoubtedly the most complex job of representation in our legislature.

Senator Gillen was probably the best single thing that happened to reapportionment this session. Long a champion of reapportionment ("A man from Dakota County has to be"), he dropped his own bill that all interested forces might unite for strength. His influence in the Senate, his forensic ability on the floor, his keen knowledge of what could and could not be done, were doubly effective because of the immense energy and industry with which he does every job he undertakes.

REAPPORTIONMENT IN HOUSE COMMITTEE

During the 1957 session the League became more acutely aware than ever before of the power of legislative committees. We have even come to wonder if some of their practices do not hold real dangers for the democratic process.

HOUSE COMMITTEE PERSONNEL Perhaps the best pre-session move we made was to complain to a member of the House Committee on Committees about the makeup of last year's Reapportionment Committee, which had come largely from three sections of Minnesota - with not a single member from the north half of the state. We were told later that such a valid criticism was more than welcome. We also suggested for membership the names of two men who had answered League questionnaires on the subject with unusual intelligence. Both were appointed. This year's committee was well-balanced, industrious, and effective; even after all bills had been reported out, they continued to meet, discussing basic principles of the problem. The report of the second Subcommittee on the Amendment Approach, largely drawn by Representatives Searle of Waseca and Parks of Ramsey, is of such high caliber as to provide a basis for any future deliberations.

DELAY FOLLOWS DELAY The power which a chairman can wield over an unwilling committee soon became strikingly apparent. Mr. Iverson was equally determined that the reapportionment problem be settled and that the Bergerud bill not become law. For five meetings, from February 6 to March 6, he had to ignore motion after motion that the Bergerud bill be recommended to pass. This was done by alternately ignoring motions and ruling them out of order.

Rep. Iverson complained bitterly of the bad working conditions resulting from the crowds present at each meeting, overflowing into the next room. At the third meeting he threatened to exclude the public if "this circus" continues. Challenged as to this, he arranged to have all visitors confined to the second room, men only to fill the first row! (We were, of course, delighted that there were enough men - and more - to fill it.)

The real reason for delay was to get the amendment, not yet quite ready, reported out ahead of the B-G bill. Before the fifth meeting, we felt justified in complaining about the undemocratic procedure in the committee to the Speaker of the House, who said he was already aware of it and would admonish the chairman.

VOTED ONTO FLOOR! On March 6, with television cameras upon him, Iverson had finally to allow a vote - after one more obstructionist tactic. Before Noreen's motion to recommend for passage the B-G bill (#450) could be seconded, Bergeson moved to send both 450 and 409* out together. After exciting debate, Bergerud invoked rule 37, allowing separation; this passed 9-6. Iverson then ruled Noreen's motion out of order; and it was moved that 409 be voted out without recommendation. This carried. Jensen then moved 450 also be voted out without recommendation. This failed by another tense roll call vote, 10-7. Finally, after five weeks of frustration, 450 was voted onto the floor, 10 to 7.

Yes: Adams (L, 31), J. T. Anderson (C, 42), Angstman (C, 55), Battles (L, 67), Bergerud (C, 36), Klaus (C, 20), Kording (L, 32), Mosier (L, 35), Noreen (C 57), Parks (C, 42).

No: Bergeson (L, 64), Enestvedt (L, 23), Fitzgerald (L, 21), Iverson (L, 48), Jensen (C, 14), Olson (L, 9), Searle (C, 16).

* # 409 - Iverson-Jensen bill

REAPPORTIONMENT IN SENATE COMMITTEE

In the House we saw a colorful chairman delay and thwart his committee's will. In the Senate we saw a chairman, in a quiet, fair and dignified way, carry out the wishes, less of the Committee, than of the Inner Circle of which we have heard so much. Last session Senator Erickson had been unwilling even to discuss the subject of reapportionment; and this year stated in early contacts that he could detect little interest in reapportionment and was not interested himself. Before long, the word evidently went down: let's settle reapportionment this session - on Senate terms.

Last year reapportionment was hardly discussed and the committee rated small attendance. This year reapportionment was given the major share of attention, and the attendance was remarkable for a 9 a.m. Monday meeting. The presence of Senator Rosenmeier at all meetings meant something important was cooking.

POWER MOVES

Rosenmeier's first move was to scathingly attack the B-G bill, then to move all reapportionment bills to a subcommittee. When, two weeks later, this bill was reported out, he again attacked it, mercilessly and quite unfairly, evidently playing for time. Just when he conceived the idea of abandoning his own combination measure (S.F. 815-816) and adapting the B-G bill to the same purposes make interesting speculation. Actually, Rosenmeier had little to do with the numerous amendments that were offered. His interest was obviously in a reasonable return to Senate status quo - then attachment to an amendment perpetuating the situation. His faith that fellow-legislators would restore the status quo was well-founded. Once all amendments were in, Rosenmeier moved a tieup between statute and amendment. The final chapter was then written outside committee, in nonofficial meetings between Rosenmeier, Sinclair, Gillen and Bergerud.

The Senate story shows why this body has the reputation of standing by its committee recommendations. The actual decisions are made in committee, rather than on the floor, with the chairman and powerful members reflecting the decisions of the guiding or inner circle.

WHERE THE LEAGUE FAILED IN 1957

Even before the session started we had failed in unanimity and perseverance.

1. Complete agreement on statutory reapportionment may be impossible to arrive at in a statewide organization. However, since our stand on the B-G bill was arrived at democratically, after careful polling of all our Leagues, and by much more than a majority, we could have expected more support (and at least no official opposition). The fact that four representatives told us their Leagues (or League members) had asked them to oppose the B-G bill; that one of these announced on the floor and in committee that his League had had no part in the League decision, which was imposed by "an executive board" - leads to these observations:

Those Leagues which do not attend state meetings, answer questionnaires, or object to a stand when they are asked to do so are hardly in a tenable position when they oppose our program with their legislators.

Perhaps we should all review the official League stand on minority positions. Disagreement with a particular item nevertheless gives that League a fine opportunity of explaining the democratic process by which we arrive at and support our program.

2. An item which the League deems important enough to retain a place on Continuing Responsibilities should perhaps get more Board and unit consideration. A subject so complicated as reapportionment would have profited by approach from a fresh angle; a subject so controversial, by continued community education.
3. The League had not anticipated the great amount of activity this session, and failed to enlist enough lobbyists. Hindsight shows that we should have been prepared to continue lobbying in the House between passage of the B-G bill and return for (non)concurrence. Apologies are due those who volunteered to act as observers this year. The quick rush of events made it impossible to contact or train enough volunteers for next year's effort. This lack of continuity is noticeable in all League legislative efforts: though lack of time and woman power will always plague the volunteer organization.
4. There are never enough letters from back home, of course, to please lobbyists, who see a few vivid examples of the good a well-timed letter can do.
5. We were hard pressed to meet the decision we had to make on the statute-amendment deal which came out of the Senate. (E.g., will we ever agree to frozen or semi-frozen districts in the Senate, which emerged this year as part of that body's interpretation of area?) Decisions mean study.
6. Our inability to do much in the Senate committee (except supply some information and color many maps) will, we hope, not be a permanent situation. New faces and emergence of strong new leadership, evident this year in both caucuses, may mean an Open Door policy in that body before long.

WHAT THE LEAGUE ACCOMPLISHED IN 1957

The League is equipped to do several things in the legislature. Local Leagues must take the first and final steps. If they do, then lobbyists from the metropolitan Leagues can fill in effectively. If they don't, our League lobbyists may irritate rather than influence.

1. Pre-session interviews at home are a sine qua non. Once given, a pre-session pledge is seldom revoked. Even if no commitment is obtained, your legislator has been informed and his interest quickened; what you have said to him may make all the difference in how he reacts to floor discussion and to lobbying of other special interest groups. Also, the more information you give your League lobbyists on your legislator, the easier and more effective their entire job.
2. Our metropolitan League lobbyists worked quite effectively with House committee members in both sessions. Whereas many non-committee members resent lobbying by other than constituents, the committee member has a real need for information (and the more complicated the subject, the more real the need); also the lobbyist comes to know quite well both the committee member as a person, and his attitude toward the subject.

We were particularly pleased at being allowed to attend subcommittee meetings in the House this year, as these are usually not open to the public. When the first House Subcommittee on the Amendment Approach was formed, we asked Chairman C. G. Olson if we might attend to make a two-minute statement. He agreed on condition we would not bring "all those women". Once there, we were asked by all members to stay for the entire meeting. When the second Committee on the Amendment Approach was formed, Mr. Searle asked first for information, then invited us to attend. Mr. Feidt, of the Senate Subcommittee, asked for information on both statute and the House amendment; he likewise issued an invitation to attend the meeting (promptly withdrawn by Chairman Behmler when he found out). These incidents underline what is perhaps the chief League function at the capital - Information Service.

3. A corollary to this function is Correction of Misinformation Service. One example: when Mr. Iverson was testifying in Senate committee that Minnesota should not reapportion by population because other states were not doing so, Rosenmeier asked if any states had done so in the last decade. Iverson answered, only Wisconsin. We could then give the four proper examples, not only to Senator Rosenmeier, but also to Iverson (who then cited these very examples to other rural members to enforce the urgency of immediate compromise).

4. To authors, of course, we can supply material; suggest next steps (simply because they haven't time to think of everything); tell them what others are saying; provide contact with the author in the other chamber; arrange meeting places; get needed information from the Legislative Research Bureau; the Attorney General's Office; and the Law Library. We even brought lunch to legislators trapped in their offices. In other words, we became Experts in Running Errands.

5. Two of four League suggestions for change in the Iverson-Jensen amendment were accepted. We also had a role in the amendment attached to the B-G bill, worked out in two late night meetings by Gillen, Bergerud, Rosenmeier, and Sinclair. Gillen asked for a statement as to what the League would accept. When the settlement was outlined, Rosenmeier asked for our decision as soon as possible; the authors deemed it a waste of time to discuss reapportionment on the floor unless League support would be forthcoming for the amendment when it was on the ballot.

6. Already discussed is the liaison the League provides with and between other organizations.

7. Surprisingly, our most constant function was to provide contact between House and Senate. The gulf between the two chambers needs more bridges. Party designation would provide the most effective contact. Control of the two chambers by different caucuses, of course, adds to the division. Some of this independence is consciously fostered, on the theory that one house is to act as a check upon the other. Some of the isolation is due to the fact that there are few occasions and little time for getting acquainted.

We were more than a little stunned, at the beginning of this session, to find that the Chairman of the House committee wasn't familiar with the name, district, or term of service of the chairman of the Senate committee. Joint hearings on important legislation (such as are held in 13 states) would obviate at least this particular difficulty.

8. The final step in the lobbying job must be done by our local Leagues. This report can best end with the story of how last-minute efforts of two local Leagues were responsible for the 2-vote margin by which the B-G bill passed the House.

Knowing that Rep. Newhouse was definitely on the fence, we long-distanced Lucille Buttz of Alexandria; one of our lobbyists also had her husband contact business associated there. Such a pile of telegrams appeared on Newhouse's desk the day of the vote that not only did he vote for the Bergerud bill; but likewise his deskmate, Mr. Tiemann of Stearns, also undecided until the last minute.

A most fortuitous visit from Mrs. Lamski of Moorhead on the day of the vote was, we feel, responsible for the yes vote of E. P. Johnson of Hawley. Here was an excellent example of superiority of simple sincerity over pressure. Mrs. Lamski sent down a note from the gallery to Mr. Johnson, telling him their League had come to the conclusion that all citizens of Minnesota should be fairly represented in our legislature. Within two minutes he was up in the gallery, explaining to her he had voted for the Jensen-Iverson bill to accomplish this and implying he was not going to vote for the B-G bill. She thanked him for his courtesy and, like us, was amazed when he punched the green light on the final vote. Probably everything he heard in subsequent debate about the unfairness of the situation was underscored by this word from home. All three of these deciding yes votes remained affirmative in the final vote on concurrence.

These are two telling examples of what on-the-spot and home-front lobbyists can and cannot do. We could ascertain the original attitude of Rep. Newhouse; follow up by discussing an editorial in his home-town paper which our Public Relations Committee had given us; find out as tactfully as possible his last-minute reactions; then phone Alexandria. Only Douglas County could influence his vote. As regards Mr. Johnson, we could supply him with information on what the three bills would do to his area, keep on friendly enough terms to interrupt his lunch with an introduction to Mrs. Lamski; encourage her to inform him of their League's stand; that was all. The effective work was done by one member from Moorhead with enough interest in the legislature to spend a day of her vacation observing, then quietly and effectively state her stand. This is the sort of home-front cooperation that keeps metropolitan lobbyists on the job.

BERGERUD-GILLEN BILL - A STATUTE
(H.F. 450 - S.F. 401)

LWV supported this bill in 1955 & 1957. Carries out present constitution though 2 largest counties are under-represented.

House Committee: recommended to pass after 5 weeks consideration, on March 6 by vote of 10-7.

House Floor: passed on March 29, by vote of 68-61, without amendment.

Senate Committee: considered in committee and sub-committee, committee again, in numerous meetings, for almost 2 months. Amended to restore status-quo of Senate almost completely. Made contingent on passage of population-area amendment. Motion to tie amendment to statute was narrowly passed 6-5. The statute-amendment tie-up unanimously passed committee.

Senate Floor: passed on April 18, 47-17.

House vote on concurrence: unheard of parliamentary maneuver to lay on table passed 68-59.

JENSEN-IVERSON AMENDMENT
(H.F. 409)

Passed House in 1955 and 1957. Would have met LWV standards if modified in 2 ways - guarantee of population in Senate, better enforcement provision.

Put House on area: 1 representative to each of 83 counties; 2 representatives to counties with $1\frac{1}{2}$ times ratio (ratio being population of state divided by number of representatives); remaining to 4 large counties. St. Louis would lose 2; Ramsey, 1; Hennepin, gain 2.

Put Senate on population (but without guarantees, to which LWV objected). Enforcement by special session.

House Committee: passed out without recommendation March 6 by clear majority on voice vote.

House Floor: passed March 29, vote 94-15.

Senate Committee: no action except to take file number, substitute Senate substance.

SINCLAIR-ROSENMEIER AMENDMENT
(S.F. 815 - 816)

Not LWV supported because introduced too late for study.

Frozen Senatorial districts, dubious tie-up of statute and amendment. Senate reduced to 56, House to 115. Senate districts frozen into constitution. House to be reapportioned every 10 years on basis of population, by the Senate. Metropolitan areas under-represented in both houses, getting 29% instead of 34.5% of state representation.

This bill was never considered in House or Senate because of reduction in size of both bodies and large number of representatives having to run at large in 2 or more counties. It greatly aided passage of more moderate B-G bill. Also important because idea of frozen districts in Senate and statute-amendment tie-up were incorporated into B-G bill.

This approach of frozen Senate districts we will undoubtedly meet again.

O'LAUGHLIN AMENDMENT
(S.F. 182)

A new approach. Had LWV support. Might provide basis for compromise in case House and Senate deadlock on which shall be area body.

Metropolitan areas limited to 33% of both houses. This would alleviate friction of one rural dominated, one urban controlled house. Also would eliminate statistical difficulty of reapportioning under different bases in 2 houses.

Dr. John Bond, the authority on reapportionment in Minnesota, advocated a similar approach through reducing 33% to 30%.

Another possibility would be to include 3 counties in the 33%.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15th and Washington Avenue S.E. Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

Federal 8-8791

September 12, 1957

Dear Legislator:

The 1957 Legislative Report of the League of Women Voters is available to you upon request. This report contains an analysis of the legislative progress of the four items that were supported by the League during the last session:

Constitutional Convention
Party Designation for Legislators
Reapportionment
Fair Employment Practices Commission

We hope this informative report will be of value to you. If you would like a copy, please fill out and return the enclosed card.

The delegates at the last State Convention of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota voted to continue to work and support the above items and the convention body also voted unanimously to study the Minnesota Election Laws. Material on this subject will be ready next spring.

Mrs. O. H. Anderson, our new president, and the state board take this opportunity to say that we will make every effort to keep you informed about the League's program during the next two years.

Sincerely yours,

O. H. Anderson

Mrs. O. H. Anderson
President

Mary Mantis

Mrs. Homer Mantis
Legislative Chairman



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

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

Please mail to me free of charge your 30 page
1957 Legislative Report.

Signed _____

Address _____

How about Alice Grosser
3
1

D.A. with Allen

MINNESOTA CITIZENS CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE

F3D2 F-13

over

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Edina
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Minneapolis
JAMES OLSON, Auditor
Minneapolis

DIRECTORS' BULLETIN NO. 3

May 17, 1957

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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MISS JOYCE VOEKS, Minneapolis

As you are all aware, while more progress was made at the 1957 Legislative Session toward the enactment of a Bill to permit the people to vote on the question of Constitutional revision, yet, as was feared, the Bill was blocked in the Senate Judiciary Committee where the attitude remains that while revision is necessary, it is better accomplished by amendment than by convention. Your chairman and many others appeared before both the House and Senate Committees in an effort to change that attitude. Complete success was reached for the first time in the House, but not in the extremely conservative upper body.

I believe that we can all feel that our efforts were worth-while from many standpoints and that our Committee should continue in existence to carry on its work to effect Constitutional revision.

I have now been your chairman for about a year and a half. With me, it is a strong conviction that organizations such as ours should have regular annual meetings and should elect new officers each year. Thus, new points of view, new vitality, new incentives and a virile organization are maintained.

Aside from that conviction, and for personal reasons unrelated to the work of the Committee, I must, by this Bulletin, resign as chairman. You may be assured that I have enjoyed and appreciated the opportunity to work with you during the past months.

As a closing item of business, I must advise you that our organization is indebted to the League of Women Voters for various services performed and expenses incurred in our behalf. The amount of the bill is \$79.97. Our treasury is bare. There are about 30 officers and directors. If each would make an appropriate contribution, our credit would be restored and our record kept clean. Miss Barbara Stuhler, 134 Warwick St. S. E., Minneapolis, Minnesota, will be happy to receive your checks and turn them over to the League in due course.

My best wishes to all of you and our friends for future success.

*Hope you
get in enough
to cover the
required amount*

Donald A. Holmes
Donald A. Holmes
Chairman

John. Moaty	3.00
K. Redder	5.00
Bruetuen	3.00
R. Lund	10.00
M. Hargard	3.00
A. Marshall	5.00
Mildred Hargraves	16.00

SLOGAN STICKER IDEA

This idea was not carried out
in 1957-59 but could be
adapted to other subjects
such as Party Designation

July 5, 1957

MINNESOTA
NEEDS A
NEW CONSTITUTION

Dear Ann,

How do you like the label on back of envelope?

I sent for 300 for \$1.00 and they sent me 600 with the request that I send them names of 8 prospects, which I did. At this rate, the stickers are not expensive.

I tried giving a bunch to a friend to use (she is a League member too) and she seemed to hesitate. I suppose she thought it was too brazen or maybe she felt that it should be authorized. I don't know.

I have been putting them on all my mail, bills and personal stuff. The post office O.K.s it as I asked to be sure. Should be on reverse side or lower left corner of address side of envelope, they said.

I am enclosing a bunch for your use.

all sent some to Lydia -

Robert Anderson

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

Sept 3, 1957

Senator Elmer L. Andersen
255 Sgle St.
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Senator Andersen;

One of our members had an idea for reaching more people about the need for a new constitution in Minnesota. The enclosed envelope will show you how it works. A postal clerk in St. Paul has said it would be permissible to use these stickers on the backs of envelopes or on packages as Christmas Seals or other seals are used. But before we get final permission from higher postal authority, we wanted to get your reaction to the idea.

As a long-time advocate of a Constitutional Convention and Constitutional Revision, do you feel that this slogan sticker would be effective if used on a large scale by League members? There was some feeling that perhaps this would make the public antagonistic, that it would be construed as "propaganda".

We certainly don't want to do anything to hurt the cause of Constitutional Convention, or to stir up any more opposition than there already is.

The State Board is meeting this Thursday, September 5, and I would like to make a report then. If you could find the time to call me Wednesday afternoon or evening and tell me how you feel about this idea, I would appreciate it tremendously. Or, if you are too busy, a letter sent directly to the State Office would help us in making our decision on whether or not to use these stickers.

Yours Very Truly,

Mrs. Kenneth Green
Constitutional Revision Chairman
State Board
League of Women Voters of Minnesota

ME 3 1748

MINNESOTA
NEEDS A
NEW CONSTITUTION

Suggested slogans for stickers;

Support legislators who support Constitutional Revision

Elect legislators who support Constitutional Revision

Celebrate Centennial with a Constitutional Convention
Let the people vote on Constitutional Convention

Minnesota needs a Constitutional Convention

It's time for Constitutional Revision

Why can't the people vote on Constitutional Convention

Minnesota's Constitution needs revision

Sen Andersen's reaction

1. Sticker idea is good
2. Leave off Ymas mail and greetings--doesn't like idea of other things intruding on Christmas
On regular mail throughout the next two years--fine. Build up to a pitch before the Leg. session
3. Wording should be changed.

If board could decide on several possible wordings to submit to the post office, it might be better.

SEP 12 1957

ELMER L. ANDERSEN
SENATOR 42ND DISTRICT
2230 W. HOYT AVE.
ST. PAUL 8, MINN.

CHAIRMAN
PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE



State of Minnesota
SENATE

COMMITTEES
CITIES OF THE FIRST CLASS
CIVIL ADMINISTRATION
COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES
EDUCATION
FINANCE
PUBLIC DOMAIN
PUBLIC HIGHWAYS
RULES AND LEGISLATIVE EXPENSE
UNIVERSITY

September 10, 1957

Mrs. Kenneth W. Green
League of Women Voters of Minnesota
15th and Washington Aves. S. E.
Minneapolis 14, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Green:

As discussed with you over the phone, I thought the idea contained in your letter of last week was an excellent one, using stickers to publicise the need for Constitutional Revision. I think there might be some matter of taste in using them during the Christmas season or on Christmas mail. It would seem to me a more effective program for after the first of the year and during 1958 election campaign time.

Also, as mentioned, I felt the statement "Minnesota Needs a New Constitution" might frighten some people to feel that we propose to eliminate the old constitution completely and write a new one. There is also the possibility that several slogans could be printed and used as stickers.

As I was thinking about it I jotted down a number of statements, none of which may be much good but might stimulate other and better thinking.

Here are some:

- Let the people vote on Constitutional Revision.
- For governmental progress -- a Constitutional Convention.
- Elect Legislators who support Constitutional Revision.
- Minnesota Needs a Constitutional Convention.
- It's time for Constitutional Revision.
- Let the people vote on Constitutional Convention.
- Elect Legislators who favor a vote on Constitutional Convention.

The League is to be commended for its persistence and faith. So many people think of legislative efforts as success or failure, when the fact is there is never any complete success, never a final failure, as legislation and government is a continuing process and any set back just indicates that more education and a little more time is needed. My warmest regards to you and your associates.

Cordially yours,

Elmer L. Andersen

OUTLOOK FOR WORK
on
CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

This is an off-year of the legislature, and after the "big push" of last year the tendency is to turn our League attention to other matters than Constitutional Revision. Also, we have a new item on the State Agenda (Minnesota Election Laws) which will need study from the ground up.

But we must remember the enthusiasm with which the state Convention put the three aspects of revision -- constitutional convention, periodic submission and reapportionment -- on the Current Agenda. The last two sub-items are going to need further study; the first one needs more explaining to the public, more education, more selling.

The best recommendation to a local League chairman with a state portfolio is to read thoroughly the green Legislative Report, 1957 put out this spring, after the 1957 Legislative Session (051057D, price 50¢). The whole report is an inspiring record of what was done last year and is packed with meaty and concrete suggestions which may lead to the "magic formula" for success next session. The conclusions at the end of each section are specific as to what the job of the local Leagues will have to be.

NEW MATERIALS

1. Background material on aspects of reapportionment by constitutional amendment will come out in October, accompanied by an article in the September-October Minnesota Voter.
2. Also in this Voter there will be an article on the possibilities involved in a constitutional amendment providing for periodic submission to the people of the question of calling a constitutional convention.

PUBLICATIONS

1. Our aim is again to see that the general public is aware of the need for a new constitution by convention. To facilitate this during the next two years, we are preparing a simple Broadside designed to be appealing. It should be given away:

- * at county fairs,
- * Centennial and Civic celebrations,
- * anywhere your League has a chance to give out LWV materials,
- * in connection with Speakers' Bureau appearances.

We'll have a dramatic way for you to do all this, and the Broadside will be available in August.

2. At present we have no more copies of The State You're In, and it needs up-dating after the last legislative session. This revision should be ready by early spring, together with a discussion outline for unit use in refreshing old members and briefing new ones. Meanwhile, a bibliography of previous, but plentiful, state publications in the constitutional revision field will be sent out as a stop-gap until The State You're In is available.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15th and Washington Avenue S.E. Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

Federal 8-8791

August 1, 1957

Memo to: Local League Presidents
From: Mrs. O. H. Anderson
Re: Broadside, Minnesota Facts, Publication Catalogs and Basic Publications

BROADSIDE

Here is a sample of the Broadside on Constitutional Convention - Sew Up that Hole - we told you about in the State Board Report. It's simple, straightforward, and the cold facts about money are designed to appeal to men. We hope the Broadside will get the widest possible distribution in the next two years.

Here are some of the opportunities you'll find to give it away -- County FairsCentennial and Civic Celebrations..... If your League is going to have people giving short talks to clubs or other groups on LWV subjects, here is a good give-away.....Grocery store managers will sometimes let you put material in all the check-out baskets..... How about using them on Constitution Day, May 25, or any other special day?

Now for the "gimmick" in distributing them. It's always more effective to hand Broadside to people, rather than leaving them in piles where they can be overlooked. The little picture is designed so that you can stick the Broadside on a spindle with the hole going right through the hole in the pocket. You could use a knitting needle or rig up something to look like a giant spool of thread and a needle.

Price: 100 @ 40¢; 500 @ \$1.75; 1,000 @ \$3.25

PUBLICATIONS CATALOGS & BASIC PUBLICATIONS

new publications.

We are sending you enough of the state Publications Catalogs and the sheet Basic Publications Needed by Local League Board so that each of your board members may have one. Watch national and Minnesota Voters for release dates of

FACTS about the LWV of Minnesota

For use in orientation, membership, public relations and finance, we have ready for you now the Minnesota version of Facts. It is appearing in a new dress this year, just as beautiful and compact as its national counterpart. We think a very nice packet might contain a copy of national Facts, of Minnesota Facts, and a copy of your local League Facts, which you could prepare as a local supplement.

Price: 25 for 50¢



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

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15 & Washington Ave. S.E., Mpls., Minn.

Memo: To Local League Constitutional Revision Chairmen Sept. 20, '57
From: Mrs. Kenneth Green, State Chairman
Re: League Bibliography on Constitutional Revision

Here is a bibliography of previous state publications in the field of Constitutional Revision to serve as a substitute for "The State You're In" until the up-to-date version is ready next spring. Of course, the "State You're In" is still the most complete and convenient League publication on the constitution, and if you can round up enough copies in your local League for orientation of new members and refreshing the "old hands," it would be simpler. First we have listed the materials as they relate to each chapter of "The State You're In"; following is a reference list for ordering.

THE STATE YOU'RE IN

- Chapter I - The Citizen and the Constitution
Constitutional Basis of State Legislatures, LWV 1954
Facts and Figures on Constitutional Convention, LWV 1955
- Chapter II - The Making of Minnesota's Constitution
The Roaring Farce of 1857, LWV 1955 (Reprint Minn. Voter, July '55)
- Chapter III - Improving Minnesota's Constitution
Minnesota Voter, July-August, 1955
Minnesota Voter, Sept.-October, 1956
Background Information on Constitutional Convention, LWV 1955
- Chapter IV - The Executive
Briefing on Constitutional Provisions, LWV Dec. 1955
- Chapter V - The Legislature
Minnesota Voter, May-June 1955
Democracy Denied, LWV 1954
Briefing Material on Constitutional Provisions
- Chapter VI - The Judiciary
Minnesota Voter, Jan.-Feb. 1956
Amendment Broad-sides, fall, 1956 (on 3 amendments which passed '56)
- Chapter VII - Finance
Dollars and Sense, LWV Jan. '55
- Chapter VIII - Home-Rule
Briefing Material on Constitutional Provisions

REFERENCE LIST

- Minnesota Voter, May-June 1955, 5¢
Minnesota Voter, July-August 1955 (Roaring Farce), 1¢
Minnesota Voter, Jan.-February 1956 (Judicial Reform), 5¢
Minnesota Voter, Sept.-October 1956 (4 F's of Const. Convention), 5¢
Democracy Denied, June 1954, 25¢
Constitutional Basis of State Legislatures, Sept. 1954, 10¢. Sorry, this is not available from state office, perhaps you can find copies in your local League file.
Dollars & Sense: Constitutional Provisions relating to State Finance, Jan. '55, 20¢
Background Information on a Constitutional Convention for Minnesota, Jan. '55, 5¢
Facts and Figures on Constitutional Convention, March '55, 1¢
The Roaring Farce of 1857 (reprint from Voter) May 1955, 1¢
Briefing Material on Constitutional Provisions, May 1955, 10¢
Amendment Broad-sides, fall 1956, 1¢ (Amendment I, Judicial Reform). Only few available in state office.
Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Legislative Manual, available from your legislator or at your library.

Give to your Public Relations Chairman for her Notebook

(3)

PUBLIC RELATIONS

10/24/57

Criticisms of the League and its stand on constitutional convention and revision have been played up lately in the Twin Cities newspapers. We feel that it would be

pointless to get into a name calling contest with the people who call us "mis-guided do-gooders." A more positive approach is needed.

If such attacks appear in your local papers urge your members to write as individuals to the paper. If the attack should mention the League by name it might be well for the president of the local League to protest officially (with her board's permission, of course).

Remember that we are joined in our efforts to promote a better constitution for Minnesota by both Democratic and Republican parties and the past three governors. Ours is a position of which we can be proud.

In writing your letters remember a couple of points:

The state of Minnesota has changed greatly in the last hundred years, the constitution shouldn't be so sacred that it can't change to meets the needs of the people. Change isn't necessarily bad, the legislature changes the constitution frequently with every amendment it proposes. Keep the letters simple, use analogies wherever possible. (A business would not pride itself on no change in its product in a hundred years, etc.) The most important thing is TO WRITE and urge your friends and husbands to write too.

Now might be the time to get busy with speakers. Instead of waiting for someone to ask you to speak, why don't you go to groups in your town like the Rotary Club and the PTA and ask if you can have five minutes at their next meeting in the interests of good government. Tell them of the role of the League in the centennial year. Why we want the constitution revised, and the other issues we stand for in our efforts to promote everyone's interest in their government. A snappy five minutes by an interested, eager League member at five meetings can reach considerably more people and be much more effective than one half hour speech. For more specific details see your "Do it Yourself Kit."

Special for Twin City area Leagues and those in the following cities: Brainerd, Bemidji, Rochester, St. Cloud, Duluth, and Moorhead. If you will let the state office know when you are having a meeting open to the public, we will pass the information on to the Citizenship Clearing House. This organization works to interest college students in politics and government.

From Mrs. O. H. Anderson, President

December 6, 1957

120857CC

GENERAL INFORMATION
FOR PRESIDENT AND
THE BOARD

We know from your letters that you are wondering what the roll of the League can be in the Minnesota Centennial year. Some of you have been asked to serve on local Centennial Committees. We feel that since no group has more devotion to the state of Minnesota and its government than the League of Women Voters, we have every right and duty to be involved in these celebration plans, and if asked, should accept. Since the announced policy of the Centennial Commission is definitely non-political, there should be no worry on that score. Perhaps our role can be one of inserting, when appropriate, the idea that now is a time to not only look backward with pride but forward with optimism. Just as we are proud of the last 100 years history, we hope to be equally proud of the next 100 years, and to that end we should see that our government keeps up with the times. In general, we think it would be a fine opportunity to work with people in your community whom you might otherwise not reach.

Give to your Public Relations Chairman for her notebook

PUBLIC RELATIONS

1/23/58

Essay Contest on the Minnesota Constitution - That time is here again. This year the League is making the essay contest a part of the Centennial celebration. We feel that it is important while celebrating our first hundred years that we look ahead to the next century. Letters have been sent to all public school superintendents and parochial school principles. The contest opens March 1, closes April 12. For details, see enclosures.

1/23/56

What can you do to help? In mid-February, we will send out two news releases through the Minnesota Editorial Association; you could speak with your editor, and ask him to use the releases and give him a copy of the rules and prizes. You can see that copies of the rules are posted in places where the high school students are apt to see them. You can encourage your own teen-agers to enter. You can be ready to supply contestants in your area with source material on the subject from your files, as suggested on the rules sheet enclosed. The 25¢ kit the State Office will sell to students on request will contain: Roaring Farce, 7/55; Governor Freeman's and Senator Andersen's Speeches, 5/56; Well, What D'ya Know...Minnesota Has a Constitution, 9/56; Will an Area Amendment Settle Reapportionment, 10/57, and a Publications Catalog to tempt the student to buy more materials. This is of course a subsidy on our part, and a bargain to the student. We hope it's a good investment.

October 21, 1957

Dear Abigail:

You got me into this* and even though you thought that by moving to Illinois you could escape the burdens of governmental problems in Minnesota, you are so-o-o wrong. You see, I feel something like the "Ancient Mariner" - I must tell everyone my tale. Furthermore, since you aroused my interest in constitutional revision (this, I would never have believed four years ago), I want to "pick your brains" as the League saying goes. Pray settle down with your coffee (I know they play football in Illinois - do they drink coffee?), and hear this!

As you know (check the May-June and Sept.-Oct. Minnesota Voters I sent you) one of the three parts of the Constitutional Revision item on our current agenda is support for "a constitutional amendment providing for periodic submission to the people of the question of calling a constitutional convention." In short, we will work for a constitutional amendment which will guarantee that we can vote at regular intervals on the convention question without first having to persuade the legislature to let us do so. I suppose in one sense this is very futuristic of us - we still want a constitutional convention now but we also want to try to make it possible for future generations of voters to have a go at a convention without the trials and tribulations of first obtaining legislative consent. Ten years of trying to break down legislative resistance is enough to discourage any citizen. I guess this is one of the hard lessons of democracy - it takes time and work to achieve basic governmental reforms like constitutional revision and reapportionment - but it's a small price to pay for better government (end of philosophy).

(One hour later - changed the laundry, two phone calls, rushed to the drug store for medicine for Hank, Jr., etc., etc., etc.)

Let's begin at the beginning. One of my favorite quotes is from Thomas Jefferson (you may know it but these are all new discoveries for me).

"Some men look at constitutions with sanctimonious reverence and deem them like the ark of the covenant, too sacred to be touched. I am certainly not an advocate for frequent and untried changes in laws and constitutions but I know also that laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind . . . As new discoveries are made, new truths disclosed, and manners and opinions change with the change of circumstances, institutions must advance also and keep pace with the times."

Jefferson's home state, Virginia - and also Pennsylvania - provided in their first constitutions that conventions could be called every seven years. Other early constitutions specified the next time a convention must be called - these periods were usually brief spans of time - two or five years, or so. The first constitution to provide for submission at regular intervals was New Hampshire's, 1792. That provision is still in effect today, and it says that the constitution can be amended only by convention and that the question of calling a convention must be asked every seven years.

Get ready to read this in your local League unit meeting. Borrow from your hostess an apron, a coffee cup, a pen, and sit down at a table and start "writing."

Our "bible," Anderson and Lobb's History of the Minnesota Constitution, reports:

"The Democrats had, furthermore, made no provision whatever for the calling of a constitutional convention for the revision of the original constitution. The Republicans had proposed the submission of the question, 'Shall there be a constitutional convention?' to the voters in 1870 and every 20th year thereafter. This Republican proposal was rejected and in its place there was inserted the provision which stands today in the state constitution."

This, of course, we know to be, "Whenever two-thirds of the members elected to each branch of the legislature shall think it necessary to call a convention to revise this Constitution, etc." We also know (see "The State You're In") that most of the delegates to our first and only constitutional convention in 1857 fully expected that another convention would be held within a very short time.

October 22, 1957

I am determined to rise above interruptions so I can give you the full story so you can answer my questions!!!

Now, then. Today, there are eight states and two territories whose constitutions call for automatic periodic submission at a stated interval. The territories, as you might guess, are Alaska and Hawaii - both of which have recently written constitutions, Hawaii in 1950 and Alaska in 1956. Both looked at the American experience as to the difficulty of convening constitutional conventions and they both provided for periodic submission every ten years. The report from the Alaskan convention stated:

"Recognizing the right of the people to take a fresh look at their basic law at reasonable intervals, the constitution provided for a popular vote every ten years on the calling of a constitutional convention. The holding of a convention cannot be thwarted nor its proper powers restricted, as in many states, by an unsympathetic legislature."

The eight states which have periodic submission requirements are: Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, and Oklahoma. Somewhere before, I think I mentioned that New Hampshire is the only state which prohibits the legislature from submitting amendments - they must have a convention to amend their document. But even New Hampshire has had only 11 conventions - one thing that can be documented is the fact that it does not necessarily follow that periodic submission means an extraordinary number of conventions. There are other reasons, too, why some of these states have not had many conventions, but more of that later (ah, suspense!)

	<u>Period</u>	<u>Date of Periodic Submission Requirement</u>	<u>Number of Conventions</u>
Iowa	10 years	1857	0
Maryland	20 years	1867	0
Michigan	16 years	1908	0
Missouri	20 years	1920	2
New Hampshire	7 years	1792	11
New York	20 years	1846	4
Ohio	20 years	1851	1
Oklahoma	20 years	1907	0

(Parenthetical but important note - in these states, conventions can also be called by legislative submission of the question to the people)

Oh, peace and quiet (the children are finally bedded down) 'tis wonderful.

Now we come to self-execution, No, I'm not going to kill myself - "self-execution" simply means, at least in the context of periodic submission, that the question be placed on the ballot without the necessity of legislative action and that if the people approve the holding of the convention, machinery for setting up the convention be provided by the constitution, not left up to the legislature.

Perhaps I can best explain it by example - in Iowa, the people have on more than one occasion voted for a convention but the legislature has refused to take the next step and provide for the machinery to set up the convention. In 1930 and in 1950 a popular majority in Maryland approved a constitutional convention. The proposals encountered the following constitutional language, however ".....if a majority of voters at such election or elections shall vote for a Convention, the General Assembly, at its next session, shall provide by law for the assembling of such convention, and for the election of Delegates thereto." In other words, the matter is left up to the legislature and in each of the last two instances, the General Assembly refused to call the convention.

The other side to the coin of self-execution is that in the first place, some legislatures have not taken the necessary steps to put the question on the ballot. In view of this experience, Missouri and Hawaii make it the responsibility of an administrative official to place the question on the ballot: the secretary of state in Missouri and the lieutenant governor in Hawaii. Although legislatures - as we know from reapportionment - cannot be compelled by the courts to do certain things (what they call political in nature), appointed or elected officials would be subject to judicial process on this matter.

Another thing which serves to restrict the effectiveness of periodic submission is the requirement of an extraordinary vote of the people to call a constitutional convention. This is the old business which we have in our own constitution, on the vote requiring a majority of all those voting at the election instead of a majority vote on the question. A number of states, for example, Iowa, Maryland, and New York require approval by a majority voting only on the question.

A further limitation which may hamper a favorable vote on the convention question under a periodic submission provision is if the question is submitted in a presidential election year. If this is coupled with an extraordinary vote requirement (a majority of all those voting at the election), it is even more difficult to get a favorable vote. Even if only a majority vote is required, there is still some danger of losing sight of a convention issue in the overriding glare of a presidential campaign.

Ideally, then, a periodic submission provision would:

1. Be self-executing.
2. Require for approval something less than an extraordinary majority vote.
3. Make sure that the date it would become effective and the subsequent intervals would be such to avoid falling in a

presidential election year.

October 23, 1957

What I have outlined is, broadly speaking, the situation in regard to periodic submission in other states. The problem now is to know what kind of periodic submission amendment we might work for in Minnesota. The Minnesota Constitutional Committee recommended such an amendment in its 1948 report. The League came out in favor of such an amendment at its 1955 convention. (I seem to remember that you had something to do with this), and we endorsed the idea at the 1957 convention, even more specifically. Incidentally, I have not been able to uncover any arguments against periodic submission. As a matter of fact, most authorities favor it.

October 24, 1957

(U.N. Day - and I'm going to a meeting shortly.)

I'm building up to my questions - are you ready?

Self-executing feature

Who should be responsible for putting the question on the ballot?

- 1) a designated official like the secretary of state
- 2) the state officer responsible for the preparation of the ballot
(this is now the secretary of state in Minnesota but it is conceivable that this might change)
- 3) other - I have, on the basis of what we know about other states, eliminated the legislature from consideration, but you may have another alternative in mind.

On the other problem of self-execution, I can think of no other idea than to spell out very definitely that the delegates must be elected at the next general election and that the convention must meet at a specified time after the election of delegates.

Vote requirement

What should be the voting requirement?

- 1) a majority of all those voting at the election
- 2) a majority of all those voting on the question of calling a constitutional convention
- 3) a majority of all those voting on the question of calling a constitutional convention providing that the total number voting is, say, 1/4 of all those voting at the election

Time

If we don't want the question to fall into a presidential election year, we should avoid beginning in a presidential election year. Then, by using intervals which are a multiple of four years, we will always avoid the presidential year; for example, we could begin in 1970, 1974, 1978, 1982 and set the interval at 12, 16, 20, 24 years and achieve this purpose.

When should we begin?

- 1) 1970
- 2) 1974
- 3) other

How often should the question be submitted?

- 1) 16 years
- 2) 20 years
- 3) other

I await your answers and ideas.

I really am running down but first let me sound off a bit on some general ideas on constitutional revision. To ignore a constitution's faults, or worse yet, contend that they are really virtues is no way to conserve a constitution or any other social or political institution. Only if its faults are exposed and corrected before they lead to real hardship and injustice can a constitution hope to survive. This truth can be recognized if periodic opportunity is given to reviewing and revising the constitution. This is conservatism at its best and wisest.

I started this by quoting Thomas Jefferson - maybe I should close by quoting his fellow Virginian, George Washington:

"The basis of our political systems is the right of the people to make and to alter their constitutions of government."

Kay

The questions asked in this material are the kinds of specific decisions which the state Board must make after League members in the program-making process and at Convention approve support of specific legislation. We thought it would be fun for each LWV member in Minnesota to try her hand at it so we have attached a form on which member opinions can be expressed. Please ask each of your units to turn in its answers to your Board. We would be most appreciative if you would then forward to us the sum and substance of their replies.

P.S. Because you're a notably superior correspondent, I herewith provide a handy answering device. Please check one, add any comments, and return your answers to my questions restated briefly as:

Self-executing

1. A designated official like the secretary of state?
2. The state official responsible for the preparation of the ballot?
3. Other?

Vote requirement

1. A majority voting at the election?
2. A majority voting on the question?
3. A majority voting on the question, providing that the total vote represents 1/4 or more of those voting at the election?

Time

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| 1. Begin in 1970? | a. 16 years? |
| 2. Begin in 1974? | b. 20 years? |
| 3. Other? | c. Other? |

September 4, 1957

Lawrence I. Radway
Ass't Prof. of Government
Dartmouth College
Hanover, New Hampshire

Dear Sir:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota has been supporting the calling of a constitutional convention in Minnesota for ten years. The reluctance of the Minnesota legislature to put such a question to the people for their vote has somewhat dismayed us but not deterred us from pursuing our objective in one or another way.

At this point, we are interested in finding out more about those states whose constitutions contain provisions for periodic submission of the convention question. I would be most appreciative if you could help us by answering these questions:

1. How many conventions have been held in your state under the periodic submission requirement?
2. Has there been any occasion where there seemed to be a need for a convention and some expression of public support when the proposal was turned down at the polls?
3. Are there any objections or qualifications to the idea of periodic submission which could be concluded from experience in your state?

If there are any references or additional information which you think important, I would welcome them.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Stuhler
Const. Revision Committee

September 4, 1957

Mr. John Bebout
Nat'l Municipal League
47 East 68th Street
New York 21, New York

Dear Sir:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota has been supporting the calling of a constitutional convention in Minnesota for ten years. The reluctance of the Minnesota legislature to put such a question to the people for their vote has somewhat dismayed us but not deterred us from pursuing our objective in one or another way.

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Sincerely yours,

Barbara Stuhler
Const. Revision Committee

September 4, 1957

H. V. Thornton
Bureau of Government
University of Oklahoma
Norman, Oklahoma

Dear Sir:

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If there are any references or additional information which you think important, I would welcome them.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Stuhler
Const. Revision Committee

September 4, 1957

Harvey Walker
Dept. of Political Science
Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Sir:

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3. Are there any objections or qualifications to the idea of periodic submission which could be concluded from experience in your state?

If there are any references or additional information which you think important, I would welcome them.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Stuhler
Const. Revision Committee

September 4, 1957

Clayton L. Riggensberg, Dir.
Iowa Legislative Research Bureau
State House
Des Moines, Iowa

Dear Sir:

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If there are any references or additional information which you think important, I would welcome them.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Stuhler
Const. Revision Committee

September 4, 1957

Franklin L. Burdette, Director
Bureau of Governmental Research
University of Maryland
College Park, Maryland

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3. Are there any objections or qualifications to the idea of periodic submission which could be concluded from experience in your state?

If there are any references or additional information which you think important, I would welcome them.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Stuhler
Const. Revision Committee

September 4, 1957

John W. Lederle, Director
Bureau of Government
Institute of Public Adm.
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear John:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota has been supporting the calling of a constitutional convention in Minnesota for ten years. The reluctance of the Minnesota legislature to put such a question to the people for their vote has somewhat dismayed us but not deterred us from pursuing our objective in one or another way.

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3. Are there any objections or qualifications to the idea of periodic submission which could be concluded from experience in your state?

If there are any references or additional information which you think important, I would welcome them.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Stuhler
Constitutional Revision Committee

September 4, 1957

Professor Gordon E. Baker
University of California
Berkeley, California

Dear Sir:

In a recent issue of the Minneapolis Star and Tribune there was an article by Roscoe Drummond entitled "States Must First Cure Unequal Representation." In it Mr. Drummond mentioned a chart that you had put together showing the extent of urban under-representation in all 48 states.

The League of Women Voters in Minnesota has been working for reapportionment for many years. Would it be possible for us to secure a copy of your chart? That is, if it wouldn't be too costly. Could you please let us know the cost and from whom we could buy it?

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Mrs. E. C. Williams, Secretary

Periodic Submission
n
Future Revision

To: State Item I Resource Chairmen
From: Mrs. K. Green, Constitutional Revision Chairman
Subject: Time for Discussing Reapportionment

This study of the amendment approach to reapportionment is being carried out by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota for these purposes:

1. Information Giving
2. Discussion of the best method for Minnesota, leading to.....
3. Action in the next legislative session.

INFORMATION GIVING * It would be helpful for resource people to read Democracy Denied and the 1957 Legislative Report, reapportionment section.

*Not all of the accompanying material is intended to be read or learned by each League member. It is a handy compilation of facts for use when specific questions crop up during discussion.

* Keep in mind the experience or inexperience of members in your League or unit. New people will need a patient explanation of the background of reapportionment; long-time Leaguers will need only a quick refresher before settling down to the new material.

DISCUSSION

* All members should save the Sept-Oct. Voter and read it before the Reapportionment topic is discussed.

* Try to keep the questions that the LWV must decide upon firmly in mind both at the beginning and at the end of the meeting.

* Stress why reapportionment is important to the citizens of Minnesota. Stress why reapportionment is important to the League - it could be the key to other legislative and constitutional reforms.

* Here is a smorgasbord of ideas which may help you put this study across to the members. Pick and choose those which suit you and your League.

1. Visual aids: Charts for outlining possible plans for an area Senate, an area House, or a compromise; Use of maps - individual ones to be colored in by members, large ones easily seen by groups; Listing main arguments for various plans on a large sheet of paper.
2. You might have a mock debate between "Senators" and "Representatives" on which house should have the area factor.
3. Try having a straw vote on the questions posed throughout the material at the beginning of the meeting and again at the end. See if the members' outlook has changed or broadened - or has been strengthened by your presentation.

ACTION

* All this information giving and discussion is for a reason.

If it has been fruitful, perhaps the League of Women Voters of Minnesota can come to a consensus on what sort of a reapportionment bill it favors by Council time next spring. We would then be able to press for legislative action at the 1959 session.

* Be sure to read the 1957 Legislative Report on the reapportionment bills. It contains many specific recommendations for local League action.

* Copies of this new reapportionment material are being sent to all the state legislators. After giving your legislator time to read his copy, it might be profitable to see him, ask if he has read it, and find out what his views are on the subject of reapportionment by amendment.

27 Member Committee named by Gov. Freeman to recommend a program for achieving what he termed "long overdue" reapportionment of the Minnesota legislature. Reported Minneapolis Star, Dec. 27, 1957

Mrs. Stanley Kane, Golden Valley, and Mr. Philip Duff, Red Wing -- Co-Chairmen

9 lay persons

Asher N. Christensen, University of Minnesota, Roseville

Raymond D. Black, Minneapolis,

Edwin Christensen, St. Paul, president of the Farmers Union

Clarence W. Myers, Blue Earth, president of Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation

William B. Pearson, Ogilvie, master of Minnesota Grange

Miss Eleanor Salisbury, Minneapolis, treasurer of League of Women Voters of Minnesota

Neil C. Sherburne, St. Paul, secretary of Minnesota AFL-CIO

9 Senators

Albert H. Quie, Dennison - later replaced by Sen. Harold S. Nelson, of Owatonna

W. J. Franz, Mountain Lake

Donald Fraser, Minneapolis

Arthur Gillen, South St. Paul

Harold Kalina, Minneapolis

C. C. Mitchell, Princeton

Harold W. Schultz, St. Paul

Donald Sinclair, Stephen

John W. Zwach, Walnut Grove

9 Representatives

E. J. Chilgren, Littlefork

Dewey Reed, St. Cloud

Harold J. Anderson, Minneapolis

Alfred Bergerud, Edina

B. J. Bergeson, Twin Valley

Carl M. Iverson, Ashby

Joe Karth/~~y~~, St. Paul - later replaced by Sally Luther, Minneapolis

Rod Searle, Waseca

Lawrence Yetka, Cloquet

Office Copy

REPORT of the
CITIZEN - LEGISLATOR COMMITTEE ON REAPPORTIONMENT

On December 23, 1957, Governor Orville L. Freeman requested the following persons to serve on a committee to "recommend a program for achieving legislative reapportionment in Minnesota."*

Of the 27 Committee members, 9 were citizen members and 18 were members of the State Legislature, balanced between House and Senate, liberal and conservative, rural and urban, and among the Congressional Districts.
Committee members are:

Senators

W. J. Franz, Cottonwood
Donald Fraser, Hennepin
Arthur Gillen, Dakota
Harold Kalina, Hennepin
C. C. Mitchell, Mille Lacs
Harold Nelson, Steele
replacing
Albert N. Quie, Rice
Harold W. Schultz, Ramsey
Donald Sinclair, Marshall
John M. Zwach, Redwood

Representatives

Harold J. Anderson, Hennepin
Alf Bergerud, Rural Hennepin
Durnett J. Bergeson, Norman
E. J. Chilgren, Koochiching
Carl H. Iverson, Grant
Sally Luther, Hennepin
replacing
Joseph Karth, Ramsey
Dewey Read, Stearns
Rodney Searle, Waseca
Lawrence Yetka, Carlton

Citizen Members

Raymond D. Black, Hennepin
Asher N. Christensen, Rural Ramsey
Edwin Christensen, President, Minnesota Farmers Union
Clarence W. Myers, President, Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation
William B. Pearson, Master, Minnesota State Grange
Eleanor Salisbury, Treasurer, League of Women Voters of Minnesota
Neil C. Sherburne, Secretary, Minnesota AFL-CIO
Mrs. Stanley D. Kane, Rural Hennepin, Co-Chairman
Philip S. Duff, Jr., Goodhue, Co-Chairman

All of the members of the Committee have participated in the work of the Committee.

* Text of the Governor's letter is found in Appendix I.

CITIZEN - LEGISLATOR COMMITTEE ON REAPPORTIONMENT

Summary of Report

The Committee concludes that:

1. The 1959 Legislature should find a fair, realistic, and permanent method of reapportionment that will assure a continuing and equitable voice in state government for all Minnesotans.
2. Amendment of the State Constitution will best serve these objectives.
3. Such amendment should be placed on the ballot for the general election of 1960.
4. The amendment should provide for:
 - a. Machinery compelling reapportionment on the basis of each decennial census.
 - b. Limits on the size of both houses of the Legislature.
 - c. A clearly defined basis for reapportionment, providing that population be the sole basis in one house and that the population requirement be modified in the other house in favor of less populated counties.
5. A majority of the Committee believes that the most workable and acceptable plan is:
 - a. To apportion the Senate solely on the basis of population (within specified tolerances); and
 - b. To apportion the House by a formula which assigns one representative to each county above a minimum population; with the remaining representatives assigned strictly according to population.A minority of the Committee prefers to place the factor modifying population in the Senate, while the House is apportioned solely on population.
6. It is the constitutional duty of the State Legislature to reapportion itself. However, a reapportionment statute adopted by the 1959 Legislature would probably not take effect until the 1962 elections because the terms of state senators elected in 1958 do not end until 1962. In addition, a reapportionment statute passed in 1959 would have to be based either on 1950 Census figures or on estimates of current population. At the same time, an amendment approved by the voters in the 1960 election would mean reapportionment by the 1961 Legislature, thus voiding any 1959 statute. If the voters reject an amendment, the 1961 Legislature would clearly have the duty to reapportion, using 1960 Census figures.

Report of the Committee

This Committee believes unanimously that the Minnesota Legislature in its 1959 session must act on the legislative reapportionment problem which has been embroiled in controversy for many years.

The 1959 Minnesota Legislature needs to provide for fair and regular legislative reapportionment for several reasons. An important part of a vigorous healthy state government is a representative legislature, and this demands a current reapportionment. The State Constitution clearly requires periodic reapportionment, and all legislators have a sworn duty to obey the constitution. The recent order of the United States District Court, District of Minnesota, Third Division, which clearly implies that the court may compel reapportionment in its final disposition of the case if the 1959 Legislature fails to take positive action, makes a solution to the problem even more urgent. The keen concern about reapportionment expressed by candidates in the recent political campaign and by organizations interested in good government in all parts of the state also reflects a public feeling that action in 1959 is imperative.

This Committee believes that the 1959 Legislature should take action which goes beyond simply drawing new legislative district boundaries on the basis of the U. S. population Census of 1950 or the estimated 1959 population. The Legislature needs to find a plan and a method of reapportionment that will not only assure an equitable voice in state government for all Minnesotans of today but will provide the same assurance for all future Minnesotans. This reapportionment plan should guarantee that representation will be reapportioned periodically in accord with future population changes, while still assuring fair representation to all sections of the state. It should be a plan well enough defined and spelled out in sufficient detail so that future reapportionments will come about more or less automatically. Its machinery and meaning should be so clear and explicit that differences of opinion over what is intended will not stall prompt periodic reapportionment as has occurred since 1913.

To attain these objectives, this Committee believes that the 1959 Legislature should propose to the people of the State an amendment to the State Constitution which will accomplish three purposes:

1. Guarantee reapportionment on the basis of the current U. S. census figures every ten years commencing in 1961.
2. Place a ceiling on the size of the Legislature at its present number of 67 senators and 131 representatives.
3. Provide that population be the sole basis for representation in one house but modify the population requirement in the other house in favor of less populated counties.

This amendment should be placed on the ballot for the general election of 1960. If such an amendment is adopted by the voters, then the Legislature convening in January, 1961, would have a duty to enact a reapportionment statute under the new provisions, a duty enforced by compulsory provisions lacking in the present State Constitution. The reapportionment would be made on the basis of the 1960 U. S. Census* and would become effective with the legislative elections of 1962. This is when the four-year terms of all 67 state senators elected in 1958 will expire. It is also the first time that the governor, lieutenant-governor, secretary of state, attorney general, and state treasurer will be elected for four-year terms under Amendment Number 2 adopted in the 1958 election. The Committee believes it is desirable, now that Amendment Number 2 has been approved, that senators be elected in non-presidential years at the same election as all state executive officers; no state executive officers are elected at intervening elections and public attention is focused on the election of a president, involving national issues, rather than on state matters.

Provisions of Proposed Amendment

A bill incorporating the proposed constitutional amendment, in the form favored by the majority of the Committee, appears in Appendix II of this report. A summary and discussion of its provisions follow:

1. Enforcement

The Constitution would require the Legislature to reapportion in 1961 and every ten years thereafter on the basis of the current U. S. Census information. If the regular session failed to reapportion, then the Constitution would require the governor to call a special session to begin not later than October 1 of that year to deal with reapportionment only. If no reapportionment has been enacted by the following January 1, then the power to reapportion would pass to a Reapportionment Commission of district judges representing every judicial district in the state and selected by the judges in their respective judicial districts. The new reapportionment would take effect at the ends of the terms of the incumbent senators and representatives.

The Constitution would also specify that the Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in deciding whether a reapportionment statute is constitutional. An action challenging the constitutionality of a reapportionment statute would take priority over other Supreme Court business. If the Supreme Court found a reapportionment statute uncon-

* The Committee has been advised that, under federal law, final 1960 Census figures must be certified to the President by December 1, 1960.

stitutional, the Constitution would require that the governor promptly call a special session of the Legislature to deal with reapportionment only. If no new reapportionment statute has been enacted by the following January 1 (or by March 1, if the special session convened after December 1), the power to reapportion would pass to a Reapportionment Commission, as above.

2. Size of Legislature

The constitutional amendment would specify that the number of senators shall never exceed 67 and that the number of representatives be fixed at 131.

(In this connection, it should be noted that Minnesota now has 131 state representatives and 67 state senators. The average for all 49 state legislatures is 121 state representatives and 38 state senators. The Minnesota House of Representatives is only a little larger than the average, while the Minnesota State Senate is the largest in the nation.)

3. Representation of Less Populated Counties

The Committee believes that a solution to the reapportionment question requires compromise between conflicting viewpoints and that acceptance of compromise involves the introduction of a factor favoring less populated counties. Some members of the Committee prefer personally that population continue to be the only constitutional basis for apportionment, but these members are willing to accept the introduction of a factor favoring less populated counties in order to reach a solution, to strengthen the Constitution with the enforcement provisions described above, and to have assurance that one body of the Legislature is apportioned on an exact population basis.

The Committee considered whether some such modifying factor should be introduced into both houses, but this solution was rejected. It was felt that at least one house ought to be based strictly and solely on population, and it appeared that the factor favoring less populated counties could be introduced more effectively by confining it to one house rather than distributing it between two. By placing this factor in one house and making population the sole basis in the other house, both rural and urban areas will be guaranteed an effective voice in state government.

In the house based strictly on population, the Committee agreed further, the Constitution should require that districts be "as nearly equal in population as it is possible to make them" using boundaries of counties, governmental subdivisions, or census tracts. And, the committee agreed, the constitution should set 20% as the limit above or below the "ideal" beyond which no district should vary. Thus,

the Constitution would set specific population limits, in terms of each new census, for every district in the body based solely on population. A district more than 20% larger or more than 20% smaller than the State's total population divided by the total number of members in that body would be prohibited. This provision would end the uncertainty about the exact meaning of the present constitutional provision that "representation shall be apportioned equally throughout the different sections of the State, in proportion to the population thereof...."

Weighing the various considerations involved, a majority of the Committee recommends that the factor favoring less populated counties be introduced in the House and that the Senate be apportioned strictly on population. The Committee recommends the following plan (see Appendix II for proposed constitutional language):

Senate. The entire State shall be divided into as many districts as there are to be senators. These shall be as nearly equal in population as it is possible to make them using boundaries of counties. Boundaries of governmental sub-divisions or census tracts may also be used as Senate district boundaries, although it is not required that they be used.

No Senate district shall vary by more than 20% from that figure which represents the total State population divided by the total number of senators. This 20% permissible variation shall not be used to diminish or increase the number of Senate districts within heavily populated counties beyond their exact numerical share.

House. Representatives shall be assigned to counties according to the following formula:

a. One ratio is that figure obtained by dividing the total State population by the total number of representatives.

b. One representative shall be assigned to every county whose population is one-third of a ratio or more, provided (1) that any county whose population is less than one-third ratio shall be joined with an adjoining county and the two together shall be considered one county for the purposes of this formula; and (2) that in no case shall more than two counties be combined to create a single representative district.

c. All remaining representatives shall be divided among counties whose populations are in excess of one ratio, in as nearly as possible exact mathematical proportion to the amounts of their respective populations in excess of one ratio.

d. Counties assigned more than one representative shall be divided into representative districts which shall be as nearly equal in population as it is possible to make them using boundaries of governmental sub-divisions or census tracts. Each representative must be elected from a separate district.

What this formula does, in short, is assure individual representation for every county unless it falls below a specified minimum size. For example, under estimated 1956 population, the minimum population would be 8,265. In 1956 all Minnesota counties had estimated populations in excess of this 8,265 minimum except Cook, Lake of the Woods, Mahnomen, Red Lake and Traverse. All of these counties except Traverse are now combined with other counties in electing a state representative. As total state population rises the minimum would obviously rise, too.

The remaining representatives would then be distributed mathematically in accordance with population. This part of the plan would work automatically. It would distribute the additional representatives between larger population centers—Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth—and smaller population centers—Twin Cities suburbs, Rochester, St. Cloud, Winona, Mankato, ~~Virginia~~, etc.—with absolute impartiality.

Austin, Hibbing

This county reapportionment proposal would remove from the Constitution the present provisions that all representative districts must lie within senatorial districts. The plan would keep representative districts within senatorial districts in most instances, but it would be better to let the Constitution remain silent on this point so that the Legislature could, if it wished to at some point, establish a representative district that lay within two senatorial districts. In any event, no confusion would result because each resident of the State would be represented by a single state senator and a single state representative.

How the Proposed Amendment Would Work

The county reapportionment plan, if applied to the estimated 1956 Minnesota population, would have the following effect:

Senate. A variety of apportionments are possible. A great many rural districts could remain exactly as at present. In other cases, two counties would join to elect one senator where each elects a senator individually now, or a two-county senatorial district would become a three-county district. There need only be two four-county districts and none larger.

Hennepin County would have sixteen senators instead of its present nine, and the under-represented suburban areas of rural Hennepin

The committee members whose names appear below accept the County Representation Plan outlined above. Their individual preferences might call for different solution, as indicated in the Alternative Plan, but they accept this majority recommendation as the most workable and acceptable compromise.

Philip S. Duff, Jr. C

Mrs. Stanley D. Kane L

Harold J. Anderson R

B. J. Bergeson L

Raymond D. Black L

E. J. Chilgren L

Edwin Christiansen* L

W. J. Franz* C

Donald Fraser L

Arthur Gillen* C

Carl M. Iverson* L

Harold Kalina L

Sally Luther L

Clarence W. Myers* L

Dewey Reed L

Rodney N. Searle C

Lawrence Yetka L

SC
L

* Signed both Plans, or included individual comments (see following pages), or both.

Alternative Constitutional Amendment

The Committee considered an alternative plan for a constitutional amendment which would embody the same enforcement provisions described above and place the same maximums on the size of the two legislative bodies but would apportion the House strictly on population and modify the population requirement in the Senate in favor of the less populated areas.

Advocates of this plan point out that many people traditionally regard the Senate as the body which should give recognition to less populated areas because:

1. The framers of the federal Constitution assigned each state two senators regardless of population.
2. The Senate is intended to be the more stable, deliberative body and to serve as a brake or balance wheel for the House.
3. The House is supposed to be closer to the people, the "popularly elected" body. Therefore, its representation should be based solely on population.

One of the most feasible ways to give recognition in the Senate to the less populated areas of the State is to place in the Constitution a limitation on the proportion of total Senate membership which may come from any single county or from two or more contiguous counties.

Committee members who take this view are listed below. In the interest of compromise some members of the Committee have been willing to sign both parts of the report, although preferring the Alternative Plan.

S	Alf Bergerud*	C	
S	W. J. Franz*	C	6 C
	Arthur Gillen*	C	2 L
H	Carl M. Iverson*	L	
S	C. C. Mitchell	C	
S	Harold A. Nelson	C	
S	Harold W. Schultz	L	
S	John H. Zwach	C	

* Signed both Plans, or included individual comments (see following pages), or both.

Individual Comments

"I have signed the Alternate Constitutional Amendment plan with considerable reluctance and largely to indicate that, as a general proposition, I am not opposed to submitting a constitutional amendment to the people of the State of Minnesota to change the reapportionment provision of the Constitution if the electorate want that. However, it is my belief that a simpler amendment can be prepared which would provide for population reapportionment in the House and Senate, with a limitation of the Senate membership confined to two or more counties. I am particularly opposed to establishing in the Constitution the size of either body, since I feel that is poor constitutional law. One can envision the legislature meeting annually in view of the problems that are arising and will arise in the future, and this might well permit a reduction of the size of both the House and the Senate. In any event, simply to show my preference with reference to the two plans submitted, I have signed the Alternate plan which provides for a so-called area concept for the State Senate and the House on strictly population."

- Alf Bergerud

"Democratic theory and the experience of the American states convince me that both houses of the legislature of a state ought to be established or apportioned on the basis of population. This is what the Constitution of Minnesota now requires, and I believe that it would be unwise to change this provision. The solution to the problem in Minnesota is, in my opinion, not to be found in changing the present constitutional base of the state's Senate and House of Representatives."

Whatever change is adopted must make provision for future automatic reapportionment so that the unfortunate experience of Minnesota from 1913 to date is not repeated. On this point I am in full agreement with the report of the Commission."

- Asher N. Christensen

"The Farmers Union goes along with the Committee's County Representation Plan as outlined in the Report of the Committee. However, the Farmers Union is committed, by its program, to support the viewpoint that one house should be based entirely on area."

- Edwin Christianson

"My first choice is to reapportion solely on population and my second choice is to make the Senate the body which is to recognize the area factor (similar to the Federal Congress). However, I have

learned from 16 years of attempting to pass a reapportionment statute, under the present Constitution, and political circumstance that compromise is required in order to accomplish greater justice than now prevails. I accept the majority conclusion that the majority proposal will have the greatest chance of attaining that justice."

- Arthur Gillen

"I feel that this (Alternative Plan) as a second choice has enough merit to be considered, because I would want to see the area factor applied in one House and not divided between the two."

- Carl H. Iverson

"The Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation must abide by the expressed opinion of the County Farm Bureaus, which states that, 'a constitutional amendment is necessary', and that, 'it should include a minimum of one representative per county.'"

In order to maintain the right of people to govern themselves as stated by Article I, Section 1, of our State Constitution, we believe that a truly representative type of legislature is essential. Therefore, it is impossible for us to be in full agreement with the Committee recommendations."

- Clarence W. Myers

"... conscientiously I must admit that I cannot sign either report ..."

- William B. Pearson

"I regret that I cannot sign the Report of the Committee. It is my conviction that true population representation is a basic principle of democratic government. Although I believe the County Representation Plan would bring a greater measure of representation than is now the case, I am unable to endorse sacrificing the principle to achieve this end. I do strongly endorse those provisions of the Plan enforcing periodic reapportionment and requiring court review. These are my personal views and in no way reflect the position of any organization of which I am a member."

- Eleanor H. Salisbury

" this (sign the report) I cannot do because the organization I represent is on record favoring reapportionment according to population "

- Neil C. Sherburne

"I would favor a constitutional amendment that would provide permanent districts for the Senate with the House on a population basis. This would place our Legislature on a basis comparable to the United States Congress."

- Donald Sinclair

Reapportionment Statute Under Present Constitution

The Committee considered many possible reapportionment statutes, viewing them from two standpoints:

1. Constitutionality under the present constitution.
2. Minimum change from present House and Senate districts.

Strict compliance with the present constitutional provisions would require a statute changing representation to the degree shown in Statute A (see Appendix III). Other combinations are, of course, possible.

The Constitution does, however, permit the Legislature some discretion. The adoption of a reapportionment statute changing representation to a lesser degree, as in Statute B (see Appendix IV), would probably be held to be in compliance with the present constitution. Statute B is a modification of H. F. 450, which was passed by the House in 1955 and 1957. It corrects the worst inequities but leaves the majority of present districts unchanged.

Both of these statutes reflect the Committee's view, as indicated in the main report, that:

- a. The size of the Legislature should not be increased.
- b. Single-member districts are preferable because they encourage more responsibility of legislators to constituents and more knowledge of legislators by constituents. (Division of districts along urban-rural lines within a county, as in Winona county today, can maintain both equality and better representation of sectional and economic interests.)
- c. Census tracts are preferable for reapportioning Hennepin and Ramsey counties. As the Legislative Research Committee has declared, "Census tracts, which are set up by the Bureau of the Census for the purpose of population enumeration, would provide a permanent, accurate basis on which to establish legislative districts in the metropolitan areas. These areas would not be subject to the periodic change of ward and precinct lines, the present basis."

A reapportionment statute adopted by the 1959 Legislature would probably not take effect until the 1962 elections because the terms of state senators elected in 1958 do not end until 1962. In addition, a reapportionment statute passed in 1959 would have to be based either on 1950 Census figures or on estimates of current population. At the same time, an amendment approved by the voters in the

APPENDICES

Appendix I

Governor's Letter of Appointment to the Committee //

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Appendix II

County Representation Plan //

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Appendix III

True Population Reapportionment Plan
(under present constitutional provisions) //

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Appendix IV

Modified Population Reapportionment
(under present constitutional provisions) //

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Appendix V

History of Reapportionment in Minnesota //

EXECUTIVE OFFICE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
SAINT PAUL 1

December 23, 1957

Dear _____:

I earnestly request you to serve on a committee that I am appointing to recommend a program for achieving legislative reapportionment in Minnesota. Your deep interest in the problems involved in reapportionment, and your past activities along this line will enable you to make a genuinely worth while contribution toward our efforts to solve those problems. I therefore sincerely hope that you will undertake this service to the people of our state.

I have given careful attention to the membership of this reapportionment committee with the single purpose in mind of selecting one which, while small enough to work efficiently, would yet be representative of all areas and points of view. The majority are members of our state Legislature, selected with regard to past interest in legislation on reapportionment, and carefully balanced between House and Senate, liberal and conservative, rural and urban, and among the Congressional Districts. I have asked nine citizen members to serve along with eighteen legislators; and have asked two of these lay members, Mrs. Stanley Kane and Mr. Philip Duff, to serve as co-chairmen. Mrs. Kane has been an outstanding leader in the work done on reapportionment by the League of Women Voters, and Mr. Duff is a prominent editor and a former legislator, who has shown a real interest in this problem.

There are two major reasons, I believe, for the appointment of this committee at this time.

With each succeeding census since 1920, the need for reapportionment in the Minnesota Legislature has become increasingly more urgent. Although repeated efforts to achieve reapportionment have failed, developments in the 1957 Legislature indicate that this need for reapportionment is now recognized by an overwhelming majority; and that the principal obstacle lies - not in disagreement over reapportionment itself - but in disagreement over the way it should be done. It seems overwhelmingly difficult, in the hurry and pressure of a busy legislative session, to find time and opportunity for the thorough discussion and the process of give and take that is necessary to arrive at an acceptable and workable plan for achieving reapportionment. I believe that a

committee of this kind, including in its membership the many differing points of view, can work out a plan of reapportionment that would have a good chance for adoption.

A second reason for activating such a committee at this time arises out of the possible outcome of a suit on reapportionment that is now before the courts. If we were to be faced with a judicial decision that would preclude holding another election to the legislature under the present apportionment, a special session to deal with the problem would probably become necessary. Under such circumstances, a carefully considered program that had been worked out in advance by this reapportionment committee, would be of considerable value in achieving speedy and effective action from such a special session.

I am therefore asking that you consider carefully the kind of action that would lead to an effective and permanent solution to our reapportionment problem. This may involve a constitutional amendment as well as a bill. It should, of course, recognize the basic principle of equitable representation that is so essential to the maintenance of responsible, democratic government; - and at the same time make provision for adequate representation of people and interests in all areas of our state. Your services on the committee to help achieve this goal will be of real value.

I hope to announce this committee on Friday, December 27th. May I assume, if I do not hear from you by that date, that you will be willing to serve?

Sincerely yours,

Orville L. Freeman
GOVERNOR

Proposed Bill for County Representation Plan

A BILL FOR AN ACT PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION
AMENDING ARTICLE IV, SECTIONS 2, 23 AND 24, RELATING TO THE
METHOD AND MANNER OF PRESCRIBING THE DISTRICTS FOR ELECTION
TO THE MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Sec. 1. The following amendment of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Article IV, Sections 2, 23 and 24, is hereby proposed to the people of the state for their approval or rejection, which sections when amended shall read as follows:

Section 2. The number of members who compose the senate shall be prescribed by law but shall not exceed sixty-seven (67). The number of members who compose the house of representatives shall be one hundred thirty-one (131). The representation in both houses shall be apportioned throughout the different sections of the state as follows:

a. The entire state shall be divided into as many separate senate districts as there are to be senators. Senate districts shall be as nearly equal in population, as determined in the most recent enumeration of inhabitants made by the authority of the United States, as it is possible to make them using boundaries of counties. Boundaries of senate districts may also follow boundaries of other governmental subdivisions or census tracts employed by the Bureau of the Census, United States Department of Commerce. No senate district shall be more than 20% larger in population nor more than 20% smaller in population than that figure obtained by dividing the total state

population by the total number of senators. In a county having a population two or more times greater than such figure, the number of senate districts within such county shall equal the nearest whole number of times such figure may be divided into such county's population.

b. The entire state shall be divided into one hundred thirty-one (131) separate representative districts. Representatives shall be assigned to counties according to the following formula: One ratio is that figure obtained by dividing the total state population, as determined in the most recent enumeration of inhabitants made by the authority of the United States, by the figure 131. One representative shall be assigned to every county whose population equals or exceeds one-third of one ratio. Any county whose population is less than one-third of one ratio shall be joined with a contiguous county and the two considered one county for the purposes of this formula and shall be assigned at least one representative, but not more than two counties shall be combined to create a single representative district.

All remaining representatives shall be apportioned among counties whose populations are in excess of one ratio in as nearly as possible exact mathematical proportion to the amounts by which their respective populations exceed one ratio. Counties assigned more than one representative shall be divided into representative districts which shall be as nearly equal in population as it is possible to make them using boundaries of governmental subdivisions or census tracts employed by the Bureau of the Census, United States Department of Commerce. In the event of consolidation of entire counties the number of representatives assigned to such consolidated counties shall be not less than the total number of representatives to which such

counties would separately be entitled without consolidation, but the representative districts within consolidated counties shall be made as nearly equal as possible as above provided.

Section 23. The bounds of congressional, senatorial and representative districts shall be prescribed by law. In the year one thousand nine hundred sixty-one (1961) and in every tenth year thereafter the senate and representative districts shall be prescribed anew according to the provisions of section second of this article, and if such districts are not prescribed anew at the regular session of the legislature in the aforesaid years, the Governor shall call a special session of the legislature to meet on or before October 1 of that year which session shall be for the sole purpose of enacting such redistricting law. If such redistricting law is not enacted by the following January 1, the Governor shall forthwith call upon the judges of all district courts within the state to meet by judicial districts, and each judicial district shall select one judge by majority vote to serve on a legislative reapportionment commission. Each judicial district shall forthwith certify its selection to the Secretary of State and may reconvene to fill a vacancy. This commission shall prescribe anew the bounds of senatorial and representative districts according to the provisions of section second of this article. The Commission shall meet at the call of the Governor, elect its own officers and shall file its report with the Secretary of State not later than April 1 signed by not less than two-thirds of its membership and such report shall upon such filing have the force of law.

The validity of any redistricting hereunder is declared a judicial

question. The Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction in all proceedings to determine such validity and shall provide an early hearing thereon. If the redistricting is determined to be invalid, the Governor shall forthwith call a special session of the legislature to convene for the purpose of enacting a redistricting law, and if none is enacted by the following January 1, or by the following March 1 if the special session convened after December 1, the Governor shall call upon the judges of the district court to select a legislative reapportionment commission for such purpose as above provided.

Election to the Senate and the House of Representatives from newly prescribed districts shall not occur sooner than the general elections which immediately precede the expiration of the terms of the senators and representatives in office when such redistricting occurs.

Section 24. The senate districts shall be numbered in a regular series and the representative districts shall be separately numbered in a regular series. The term of office of senators shall be four (4) years and the term of office of representatives shall be two (2) years. Senators shall be next chosen at the general election held in the year one thousand nine hundred sixty-two (1962) and at the general elections every four years thereafter. Representatives shall be elected at the general elections held in each even numbered year.

Sec. 2. This proposed amendment shall be submitted to the voters for their approval or rejection at the general election for the year 1960 in the manner provided by law. The ballots used at the election shall have

printed thereon:

"Shall the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Article IV, Sections 2, 23 and 24, be amended so as to provide that legislative districts shall be prescribed anew every ten years; that senate districts shall be equal in population, and that representatives shall be apportioned first to counties exceeding a certain minimum size and then according to population; and further providing for a commission of judges to carry out such redistricting if the legislature fails to act thereon?

Yes _____

No _____"

TRUE POPULATION REAPPORTIONMENT BY 1950 CENSUS

Ideal Senate district contains 44,515. Districts have been allowed to vary by 20%; therefore, an acceptable Senate district may contain from 35,612 to 53,418.

Ideal House district contains 22,767. Districts have been allowed to vary by 20%; therefore, an acceptable House district may contain from 18,214 to 27,320.

Where division on county lines makes House districts vary from this 20% deviation, representatives run at large in the Senate district. (The other alternative would be to combine part of the larger county with the smaller to make two districts of acceptable size.)

	Senate District	County Population	District Pop.	House District	No. of Rep.	District Pop.
1	Houston Fillmore	14,435 24,465	38,900	Houston Fillmore	2 at 1,*	19,950(av.)
2	Winona	39,841	39,841	Winona	2 at 1.	19,921(av.)
3	Goodhue Wabasha	32,118 16,878	48,996	Goodhue Wabasha	2 at 1.	24,498(av.)
4	Olmsted	48,228	48,228	Olmsted	2 at 1.	24,112(av.)
5	Mower	42,277	42,277	Austin Mower, rural	1 1	23,100 19,177
6	Dodge Freeborn	12,624 34,517	47,141	Dodge Freeborn	2 at 1.	23,571(av.)
7	Waseca Steele	14,957 21,155	36,112	Waseca Steele	2 at 1.	18,056(av.)
8	Rice	36,235	36,235	Rice	2	18,118(av.)
9	Dakota	49,019	49,019	Dakota	2	24,510(av.)
10	Scott LeSueur	16,486 19,088	35,574	Scott LeSueur	2 at 1.	17,787(av.)
11	Blue Earth	38,327	38,327	Mankato Blue Earth, rural	1 1	18,809 19,518
12	Martin Faribault	25,655 23,879	49,534	Martin Faribault	1 1	25,655 23,879
13	Jackson Cottonwood Wantonwan	16,306 15,763 13,881	45,950	Jackson Cottonwood Wantonwan	2 at 1.	22,975(av.)
14	Redwood Brown	22,127 25,895	48,022	Redwood Brown	1 1	22,127 25,895
15	Yellow Medicine Lyon	16,279 22,253	38,532	Yellow Medicine Lyon	2 at 1.	19,266(av.)
16	Lincoln Pipestone Rock	10,150 14,003 11,278	35,431	Lincoln Pipestone Rock	2 at 1.	17,716(av.)

* at lg = at large

Senate District	County Population	District Pop.	House District	No. of Rep.	District Pop.
17 Murray Nobles	14,801 22,435	37,236	Murray Nobles	2 at 1.	18,618(av.)
18 Lac qui Parle Big Stone Traverse Stevens	14,545 9,607 8,053 11,106	43,311	Lac qui Parle Big Stone Traverse Stevens	1 at 1. 1 at 1.	24,152 19,159
19 Douglas Grant Pope	21,304 9,542 12,862	43,708	Douglas Grant Pope	1 1 at 1.	21,304 22,404
20 Swift Kandiyohi	15,837 28,644	44,481	Swift Kandiyohi	2 at 1.	22,241(av.)
21 Chippewa Renville	16,739 23,954	40,693	Chippewa Renville	2 at 1.	20,347(av.)
22 Nicollet Sibley	20,929 15,816	36,745	Nicollet Sibley	2 at 1.	18,373(av.)
23 McLeod Carver	22,198 18,155	40,353	McLeod Carver	1 1	22,198 18,155
24 Meeker Wright	18,966 27,716	46,682	Meeker Wright	1 1	18,966 27,716
25 Stearns, Rural	47,900	47,900	Stearns, Rural	2 at 1.	23,950(av.)
26 St. Cloud Benton, Rural Sherburne, Rural	28,410 12,938 8,005	49,353	St. Cloud Benton, Rural Sherburne, Rural	1 1 at 1.	28,410 20,943
27 Anoka	35,579	35,579	Anoka	2	17,789(av.)
28 Washington	34,544	34,544	Washington	2	17,272(av.)
29 Chisago Isanti Mille Lacs Kanabec	12,669 12,123 15,165 9,192	49,149	Chisago Isanti Mille Lacs Kanabec	1 at 1. 1 at 1.	24,792 24,357
30 Todd Morrison	25,420 25,832	51,252	Todd Morrison	1 1	25,420 25,832
31 Otter Tail	51,320	51,320	Otter Tail	2	25,660(av.)
32 Clay Wilkin	30,363 10,567	40,930	Clay Wilkin	2 at 1.	20,465(av.)
33 Becker Hubbard Wadena	24,836 11,085 12,806	48,727	Becker Hubbard Wadena	1 1 at 1.	24,836 23,891
34 Cass Itasca	19,468 33,321	52,789	Cass Itasca	2 at 1.	26,399(av.)
35 Crow Wing Aitkin	30,875 14,327	45,202	Crow Wing Aitkin	2 at 1.	22,601(av.)
36 Carlton Pine	24,584 18,223	42,807	Carlton Pine	1 1	24,584 18,223
37 Clearwater Mahnomen Pennington Red Lake	10,204 7,059 12,965 6,806	37,034	Clearwater Mahnomen Pennington Red Lake	1 at 1. 1 at 1.	17,263 19,771

Senate District	County Population	District Pop.	House District	No. of Rep.	District Pop.
38 Polk Norman	35,900 12,909	48,809	Polk Norman	2 at 1.	24,405(av.)
39 Kittson Roseau Marshall	9,649 14,505 16,125	40,279	Kittson Roseau Marshall	2 at 1.	20,139(av.)
40 Beltrami Lake of the Woods Koochiching	24,962 4,955 16,910	46,827	Beltrami Lake of the Woods Koochiching	1 1 at 1.	24,962 21,865
41 Cook Lake E. St. Louis	7,781 2,900 30,022	40,743	Cook Lake E. St. Louis E. St. Louis	1 1	20,371(ca.) 20,371(ca.)
42 W. St. Louis	41,000(ca.)	41,000(ca.)	W. St. Louis	2	20,500(ca.)
43 Duluth and 44 surrounding 45 townships	135,000(ca.)	45,000(ca.)	Duluth (City) Rest of St. Louis	5 1	20,902(av.) 31,000(ca.)
46 Hennepin	676,579	48,327 (av.)	Hennepin	27	24,164
to 414 Senators, 1 at large for suburbs			27 Representatives		
59 10 Senators for Minneapolis			20 Representatives for Minneapolis		
4 Senators for suburbs (3 divided and 1 at large)			7 for suburbs (6 divided and 1 at large)		
60 Ramsey <i>including</i>		44,416 (av.)	Ramsey	14	22,208
to 68 Senators, 1 at large for suburbs			14 Representatives		
67					

355,328

2

9,192
15,165
8,005
32,362

44,416
399,744

44416
8
355328

48,327
19,330
41,627
48327

224905
676578

MODIFIED POPULATION REAPPORTIONMENT BY 1950 CENSUS

Modification of House File 450 of 1957. Ideal Senate district - 45,884. Ideal House district - 22,767.

Senate District	District Population	House District	No. of Reps.	District Pop.
1 Houston-Fillmore	38,900	Houston Fillmore	1 1	14,435 24,465
2 Winona	39,841	Winona City Winona County	1 1	25,031 14,801
3 Wabasha-Goodhue	48,996	Wabasha Goodhue	1 1	16,878 32,118
4 Olmsted	48,228	Rochester Rest of Olmsted	1 1	29,885 18,343
5 Mower	42,277	Austin Rest of Mower	1 1	23,100 19,177
6 Freeborn-Dodge	47,141	Freeborn Dodge	1 1	34,517 12,624
7 Faribault-Martin	49,534	Faribault Martin	1 1	23,879 25,655
8 Blue Earth	38,327	Blue Earth	2	19,164(av.)
9 Wantonwan-Jackson-Cottonwood	45,950	Wantonwan-Jackson-Cottonwood	2 at l.*	22,985(av.)
10 Nobles-Rock-Murray	48,514	Nobles Rock-Murray	1 1	22,435 26,079
11 Lincoln-Pipestone-Lyon	46,406	Lincoln-Pipestone Lyon	1 1	24,153 22,253
12 Yellow Medicine-Lac qui Parle-Chippewa	47,563	Yellow Medicine-Lac qui Parle-Chippewa	2 at l.	23,782(av.)
13 Swift-Kandiyohi	44,481	Swift Kandiyohi	1 1	15,837 28,644
14 Le Sueur-Rice	55,323	Le Sueur Rice	1 2	19,088 18,118 (av.)
15 Redwood-Brown	48,022	Redwood Brown	1 1	22,127 25,895
16 Nicollet-Sibley	36,745	Nicollet Sibley	1 1	20,929 15,816
17 Waseca-Steele	36,112	Waseca Steele	1 1	14,957 21,155
18 Dakota	49,019	Dakota	2	24,510(av.)

* at l. = at large

Senate District	District Population	House District	No. of Reps.	District Pop.
19 McLeod-Renville	46,152	McLeod Renville	1 1	22,198 23,954
20 Meeker-Wright	46,682	Meeker Wright	1 1	18,966 27,716
21 Washington	34,544	Washington	2	17,272(av.)
22 Carver-Scott	34,641	Carver Scott	1 1	18,155 16,486
23 Douglas-Pope	34,166	Douglas Pope	1 1	21,304 12,862
24 Stevens-Big Stone- Traverse-Grant	38,308	Stevens-Big Stone Traverse-Grant	1 1	20,713 17,595
25 Clay-Wilkin	40,930	Clay Wilkin	1 1	30,363 10,567
26 Anoka	35,579	Anoka	2	17,790(av.)
27 St. Cloud in Stearns- (22,781) Benton (15,911) St. Cloud in Sherburne (2,656)	41,348	St. Cloud in Stearns Benton-St. Cloud in Sherburne	1 1	22,781 18,567
28 Stearns, exclusive of St. Cloud	47,900	Stearns	2	23,950(av.)
29 Norman-Mahnomen- Clearwater-Pennington	43,137	Norman-Mahnomen Clearwater-Pennington	1 1	19,968 23,169
30 Polk-Red Lake	42,706	Polk-Red Lake	2 at 1.	21,353 (av.)
31 Kittson-Roseau-Marshall	40,279	Kittson-Roseau Marshall	1 1	24,154 16,125
32 Otter Tail	51,320	Otter Tail	2	25,660(av.)
33 Wadena-Todd	38,226	Wadena Todd	1 1	12,806 25,420
34 Itasca-Cass	52,789	Itasca Cass	2 1	16,661(av.) 19,468
35 Crow Wing-Morrison	56,707	Crow Wing Morrison	1 1	30,875 25,832
36 Aitkin-Carlton	38,911	Aitkin Carlton	1 1	14,327 24,584
37 Kanabec-Mille Lacs- Sherburne (part)	32,362	Kanabec-Mille Lacs- Sherburne (part)	2 at 1.	16,181(av.)
38 Pine-Isanti-Chisago	43,015	Pine Isanti-Chisago	1 1	18,223 24,792

Senate District	District Population	House District	No. of Rep.	District Population
39 Beltrami-Lake of the Woods-Koochiching	46,827	Beltrami Lake of the Woods-Koochiching	1 1 at 1.	24,962 21,865
40 Becker-Hubbard	35,921	Becker Hubbard	1 1	24,962 11,085
41 ^a St. Louis(pt.)-Duluth (pt.)-Cook-Lake	42,000(ca.)	St. Louis(pt.)-Cook-Lake Duluth (pt.)	1 1	21,000(ca.) 21,000(ca.)
42 ^a St. Louis(pt.)-Duluth (pt.)	42,000(ca.)	St. Louis (pt.)-Duluth (pt.)	2	21,000(ca.)
43 ^a St. Louis(pt.)-Duluth (pt.)	43,950(ca.)	St. Louis(pt.)-Duluth (pt.)	2	21,975(ca.)
44 ^a St. Louis(pt.)	43,950(ca.)	St. Louis(pt.)	2	21,975(ca.)
45 ^a St. Louis(pt.)	43,950(ca.)	St. Louis(pt.)	2	21,975(ca.)
46-52 ^b Ramsey (7 Senators)	50,762(av.)	Ramsey	14	25,381(av.)
53-65 ^c Hennepin (13 Senators)	51,742(av.)	Hennepin	26	25,871(av.)

^a St. Louis County - Present senatorial districts 57 and 58 are equalized and given two representatives each. Present senatorial districts 59, 60 and 61 are equalized and given two representatives each.

^b Ramsey County - With seven senators and fourteen representatives, the average Ramsey County senatorial district should contain, according to 1950 census figures, 50,762 persons. A deviation of 20% would set limits of 40,610 and 60,914. Districts 38, 39 and 40 fall within these limits. The least disruption would be caused by combining parts of 41 and 37, making two districts of about 49,000 each. District 42, which in 1950 contained 120,107 persons, should be divided into two districts.

Ramsey County representatives are elected from separate districts, except in 41. In 38 and 39, the present division is equal. Districts 37 and, particularly, 40 need redividing. In Districts 41 and 42, suburban-urban interests might well be considered in making representative districts.

^c Hennepin County - It is recommended that Hennepin County have thirteen senators and twenty-six representatives. Of these, the City of Minneapolis would have nine senators and eighteen representatives. The ideal Minneapolis district would thus contain 57,960 persons; with a 20% deviation, limits would be from 46,368 to 69,552.

To keep the districts within these limits, the least disruption would be caused by:

preserving boundaries of Districts 29 and 34.

placing part of District 35 (79,830) in adjoining District 28 (28,258) and part in District 30 (38,172). This would make three districts of approximately 48,000 each.

placing part of District 32 (84,285) in District 31 (42,747) to make two districts averaging about 63,000.

dividing District 33, which contains 123,785 persons, into two districts.

It is further recommended that four senators and eight representatives be assigned to suburban Hennepin County. In 1950, this area had 153,455 persons, which would have entitled it to about three and one-half senators. It would seem only just that a reapportionment done late in the census period assign this area four senators and eight representatives, for the following reasons:

The 1960 census will probably show a population in this area of at least 275,000 persons (entitling it to six senators and twelve representatives).

The need for extra representation in the suburbs is particularly acute because of the difficult problems of schools, transportation, utilities, road-building, etc., accompanying the establishment of new units anywhere.

The interests of suburban areas are quite distinct from those of Minneapolis and need separate representation.

The suburban legislator must care for the problems of many kinds of governmental subdivisions---townships, villages, cities, school districts---giving his job a complexity not encompassed by that of the strictly urban representative.

Population estimates for 1958 indicate that an equitable suburban division would be:

(1) Bloomington, Richfield, Ft. Snelling; (2) Edina, Morningside, Hopkins, St. Louis Park; (3) Golden Valley, New Hope, Crystal, Robbinsdale, Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park; (4) Lake Minnetonka, Eden Prairie and remaining rural Hennepin County.

History of Reapportionment in Minnesota

In the 100 years that Minnesota has been a state, its legislature has been reapportioned 7 times. In the first 40 years of this century, reapportionment was done 6 times; in the last 60 years, only once.

The inevitable problem in any reapportionment is the shift in control following transfer of legislative seats. Starting with the reapportionment of 1860, the shift of representation was from the older, southeastern part of Minnesota to the more recently settled north and west - a shift largely circumvented by increasing the size of the legislature.

Reapportionment of 1860. This was the only redistricting act in Minnesota's history that did not increase the size of the legislature. Actually, the Senate was reduced from 37 to 21, the House from 80 to 42.

Reapportionment of 1866. An addition of 1 senator and 5 representatives brought the Senate to 22 and the House to 47.

Reapportionment of 1871. A 75% increase in population during the previous 5 years made necessary either a tremendous shift in legislative power or a greatly increased legislature. The legislature chose the latter alternative, increasing the Senate from 22 to 41 and the House from 47 to 106.

Reapportionment of 1881. This act was the first large-scale redistribution of legislative seats. Although the population had increased from 41 to ~~47~~ 47, and the House from 103 to 106.

Reapportionment of 1888. Discrimination against Hennepin and Ramsey Counties appeared for the first time. Even so, their great growth made it necessary to increase Hennepin from 2 to 6 in the Senate and from 10 to 15 in the House; Ramsey went from 2 to 4 in the Senate and from 7 to 10 in the House. The Senate was increased from 47 to 54 and the House from 103 to 114.

Reapportionment of 1897. Again the legislature was increased - from 54 to 63 in the Senate and 114 to 119 in the House. The act was equitable throughout the state though somewhat underrepresenting the metropolitan areas. Hennepin and Ramsey gained only 1 senator and 1 representative each; Hennepin now had 7 and 16; Ramsey 5 and 11.

Reapportionment of 1913. The overrepresentation of southern Minnesota and underrepresentation of the 3 most populous counties, revealed by the 1910 Census, delayed redistricting in 1911. Instead, a constitutional amendment was put before the voters in 1912. This

by 78% during the previous 10 years, this increase was met by a substantial transfer of seats from south and east to north and west. The Senate was increased

was known as the Seven Senators Bill, since it permanently restricted Hennepin to that number in the upper House. It was defeated at the polls.

The 1913 Legislature passed 2 reapportionment measures - the statute which still governs and, again, the Seven Senators Bill. The statute increased the Senate from 63 to 67 and the House from 119 to 130 (the 131st was added in 1921 to District 65). Southern Minnesota took the greatest loss of representation. Northern Minnesota gained 5 senators and 14 representatives; Hennepin, 2 senators and 2 representatives. Ramsey, 1 senator and 1 representative; St. Louis, 2 senators and 4 representatives.

At the election of 1914, the voters again - and by a larger majority - rejected the Seven Senators amendment. This was the last constitutional amendment on reapportionment passed by the legislature, just as the 1913 act was the last statutory reapportionment. During the ensuing 45 years, the population of Minnesota has increased by 44%, with some legislative districts now underrepresented by as much as 371%.