



League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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Indian Health, Educ., Welfare

March 1964

40 Leagues reporting.

	L	U	M
State finance of welfare	24 $\frac{1}{3}$	58	42
Enforcement of state standards	18	33	22
Local finance of welfare	0 $\frac{2}{3}$	1	20
Enforcement of local standards	4	1	0

10 Leagues commented that while they want a broadened (state-wide) base for payment, and the establishment of state standards, they want programs to be administered by a local agency.

	L	U	M
Abolish residence requirements for welfare	11 leagues		
	9	30	22
Support ADC for chronically unemployed	6	8	7
State payment of administrative costs of welfare programs	9 leagues		
	4	32	0

Oppose ADC for chronically unemployed	2	0	12
Not enough information re ADC	2		

32 Leagues want support of remedial programs, arguing that while program may be costly now, it is cheaper in the long run. They suggest particularly vocational training, ^{retraining} counseling for urban living, ^(strong) health education, child care, etc.

5 suggest domestic peace corps

Reiteration of support of Indian commission was frequent (18 leagues) with request for funds and staff.

An underlying philosophy: also frequently expressed
in 1963 - is that legislation should not
single out a special group. ~~Laws should~~
If laws need change, ^{wherever possible} it should be done without
reference to race, religion or national origin.

2 Leagues felt we should make no decision without
further study of well-being.

Curriculum

1. LWW of Minn., supports the broadening of the base for payment for welfare programs through the avenue of

1. The LWW of Minnesota believes that the financial burden for welfare should be shared by the whole state in order to broaden the base for payment. The support the setting ^{and enforcement.} of standards for relief by the state ^{or education}

2. The support remedial programs which provide education in

the ^{work to} support remedial & educational programs particularly in the areas of vocational training and retraining, counseling for urban living, and adult education programs.

The believe that as a general principle, legislation should not single out a special group. When laws are written, wherever possible it should be done without reference to ^{specific} race, religious or national origin.

1- all for Indians -

2-

3-

PROPOSED DISCUSSION OUTLINE ON INDIAN STUDY

I. Goal of meeting (Discussion Leader)

We already have a broad position on Indian problems arrived at during our study last year. Our purpose at this meeting is to become aware of the kinds of legislation which were proposed, and either passed or defeated, during the last legislative session; and then to refine our areas of agreement (particularly as they relate to health, education and welfare) about the state's responsibility. Out of this should come some general principles and direction for League activity during the 1964-65 legislative session.

II. Introduction

The resource person should recap our position as of May, 1963, as a starting point for discussion. She might then spend about 20 minutes on a resume of the "Capitol Letter on Indian Affairs" relating it to the health, education and welfare chapters of Indians in Minnesota. The "Capitol Letter" is not intended to stand alone for study, but is an adjunct to the larger resource piece. The creation of an Indian Commission (p. 6) should be stressed. We are already able to work for its improvement as is clear from the enclosed position.

For the purposes of discussion, the material breaks into 3 main categories.

1. Health and Education
2. Welfare
3. Remedial programs (Education in a broad sense.)

1. Health and Education. The state's participation in health and education programs is fairly clear. The mortality and morbidity rate is higher for Indians than any other group in the state. The main diseases held responsible for this are gastroenteritis and upper respiratory infections. Drs. Barr and Finkelstein of the Minnesota Department of Health stated that these cannot be eliminated by medical procedures alone, but are primarily attributable to poor nutrition, unsanitary conditions, and deplorable housing.

In education there are no federally operated Indian schools in the state. Almost all Indian children attend integrated schools in consolidated school districts. Schools with almost non-integrated populations do exist on the Red Lake Reservation. Problems in this area would relate to the high drop out rate, orientation of teachers to the problems of Indian children, counseling, etc., the improvement of which does not necessarily require legislation. In both health and education, the state sets and enforces standards.

2. Welfare. Unlike health and education, the state's participation is more limited in welfare. Programs are administered locally with state supervision, but only when the state has administrative control can they enforce standards. Since welfare has been a local concern, residence requirements have been set up on a county or township basis. The crucial question is one of state participation versus local determination. It is part of our present position that the financial burden should be shared by the whole state in order to broaden the base for payment.

Clearly, the burden of relief on counties with large Indian populations is great and the tax base is low. (You may wish to reproduce the charts on pp. 46-48 of Indians in Minnesota or make bar-graphs from them.) How do members feel about reimbursement to counties for the cost of Indian relief? For the administrative

costs of such programs? How do the members feel about residence requirements for welfare? About ADC to the chronically unemployed? About standards of assistance? As we said above, the question revolves around this point: Is it worth diminishing local control to get a broader base for payment and establishing standards of assistance?

3. Remedial programs or education in a broad sense. Included here would be programs for vocational retraining, counseling for urban living, adult education programs concerned with maternal and child care, nutrition, health education, etc. Here the main question is one of cost. Such programs are usually costly. What would your members want the League to do if legislation were proposed to set up any of these programs?

III. Visual Aid possibilities

Reproduce charts from Indians in Minnesota or use bar-graphs adapted from them. Minnesota State Highway Map showing reservation lands, state and federal forest lands, the Great River Road, etc.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # _____, LWV of _____ feels:
(your League)

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of _____
(your League)
would like the League to take the following position:

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

*Indians**Consensus**due March 6*

LOCAL LEAGUES

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

Anoka League of Women Voters

Consensus regarding Indians

Our conclusions were as follows:

Although we are generally not in favor of legislation singling out a special group, we feel the Indian is now in a position of requiring special legislation in order that his special needs (remedial and educational programs, (over)

counseling for urban living)
be met.

We again reiterate our
strong support of the Indian
Commission and request
that adequate funds and
staff be provided.

MAR 9 1964

Indian Study - Consensus from the Anoka - Coon Rapids Units

1) On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs - we feel the state should reimburse every county for aid paid to the Indian, and that aid should be based on need, rather than residence or a particular county's relief program. The standard of living for the Indian should be raised to the level of others in their area.

Each Indian should receive help as needed regardless of what county he is in, even if this means having the state regulate the Indian program of relief.

We also recommend that the Indian Commission set up an agency in the Twin Cities to help integrate the Indian who moves to the Twin City area.

(over)

2) Regarding remedial programs, we would like to see the league take the following position.

Scholarships set up with the stipulation that the Indian return to his reservation to practice his profession for a stipulated time. These scholarships would be limited to medicine, education and other beneficial professions to the Indian. We feel this help, from one of their own, would be more acceptable to those living on the reservations.

We would also recommend that the State Commission on Indian Affairs set up a plan of vocational training for employment. The Indians should be paid some stipend for in-service training.

MAR 2 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # _____, LWV of Alexandria Minn. feels:

(your League)

Local control should be relinquished to the state to get a broader base for payment and for establishing standards of assistance.

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of Alexandria Minn.

(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

More provisions must be made for Indian education.

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

The League of Women Voters of Alexandria, Minnesota feels the problems of welfare and education must be considered together. One is of little value without the other.

The Indian population should benefit to the greatest possible extent from welfare programs. If they would do so by greater state control of monies then that is what should be done.

Along with welfare, the Indians need more education of one sort or another. This means more vocational training, counseling for urban living, adult education concerning maternal and child care. Also, Indian young people should be encouraged to finish high school and more should be encouraged to go on to higher education.

If our goal is to help people help themselves then, in the end, this may be the least costly of programs.

We believe the Indians should have a voice in the development of our state.

The Alexandria L. W. V. has shown great interest and concern for the Indian and his problems. We have had excellent discussions with all members participating.

FEB 28 1964

Lais ⁶³³ 1342

Indian Consensus - Arden Hills

All four of our units agreed that the Federal Govt. should help finance welfare programs for the Indian but they also felt that the state should have most of the obligation to administer the funds as they have closer knowledge of the problems to be faced. They felt that the Indian Commission has not been appropriated adequate funds and that there were too many overlapping agencies trying to help the Indian. One unit expressed the feeling that the Federal Govt. has a moral & financial obligation for the Indian. Some of the members felt they would rather not have the Fed. Govt. getting into it at all except that they felt the ^{financial} burden would be too heavy for the State alone to handle.

They feel there is a definite need for remedial programs and that maybe by working through the Indian Commission, the present programs could be more effective & better brought to the attention of the Indian. In at least one group

There was the feeling that we had not studied this enough to give any definite solutions or ideas. There was a suggestion of a Peace Corps plan among the Indians to help them learn basic health & home making skills & perhaps further their own culture. There was a minority feeling that the Indian should be taught to be just a plain American citizen instead of expecting special treatment as an Indian. One unit favored dispersal of Indians from the reservation with assistance to help them get started and also more vocational training in high school & for adults to help them to live off the reservation.

I feel that the discussion in each unit was good with most people entering in. There wasn't any special suggestion for legislation in the next session.

MAR 30 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # _____, LWV of Battle Lake feels:

(your League)

The whole State should share financial burden

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Med. Standard would be higher than average

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of Battle Lake

(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

We feel strongly about A.D.C.

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

*Anyone made a tax paying citizen
is money well spent.*

MAR 5 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # 2415, LWV of Bemidji feels:

The state should participate to a great extent in welfare programs because of unequal distribution of tax income in relation to welfare efforts in the various counties.

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of Bemidji (your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

Support legislation leading to remedial programs based on education - adult, vocational, rehabilitation as well as increased effort in public schools programs.

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

There is strong feeling on all phases of the study of problems of Indians in the Bemidji League. Something must be done to help the Indian population and by so doing our own problem of tax assessments for welfare assistance would be helped. The members do want continued study and support for Indian legislation - something that will coordinate existing agencies and programs. The Indian Affairs Commission should be strengthened and given authority as a work group not study group.

we hope for the eventual elimination of residence requirements for welfare assistance within the state. Changing times that demand increased mobility in search of job opportunities, educational opportunities etc find many families who cannot meet residence requirements for welfare aid from Counties. If it were available on state requirement those same families could have a longer period of time to stabilize their attempted relocation.

Along with state residence requirements there would have to be state financing and eventually state control. In this area we cannot agree - local control usually means more effective control and the group could not agree on a stand here.

3 Remedial programs of a long range type training for future generation is the hope of the Indian as well as other citizens from depressed areas. These programs must succeed before as housing, health professional training etc can be meaningful.

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained, the League of Women Voters of Bloomington (except for One Unit) feels:

There were several areas of agreement in this area with not any one item being either a majority or a minority.

County Welfare with counties being reimbursed for the cost of Indian relief and for the administrative costs of such programs.

A program administered by county welfare officials with outside support.

State financial participation which would help low tax base counties so they could have funds to work with.

There was a split agreement on Federal aid with some feeling that to stop all federal aid could cause financial hardships in states with large Indian populations. Others felt there should be no federal aid because other states could eventually want Federal Aid for their problems (Alaska-aid for Eskimos was an example given). Some also felt that Federal Aid should be for all Indians and others felt Federal Aid should be for those at least $\frac{1}{4}$ Indian with no land requirement. These were minority agreements as most members did not give an opinion of Federal Aid.

On the question should we support ADC to the chronically unemployed most members did not give an opinion. There were two minority opinions with some feeling we should not support it while others felt we should support it with some kind of time limit set on it so as not to encourage anyone to stay unemployed.

Why?

Indians were settled by the government in certain areas and are citizens of the state. Since Indians seem to require about six times more relief than the general population, it was not fair to expect counties with a large Indian population to foot the entire bill. Since some counties have lower monetary relief standards than others it would be proper for the state to enforce standards of assistance thus insuring that those who were on relief at least enough to make most ends meet.

Regarding remedial programs the League of Women Voters of Bloomington (except for one Unit) would like the League to take the following position:

We believe that vocational retraining, adult education programs concerned with health, child care, etc. for those getting public assistance are a must and that even though costly they are a necessary expense. We would like the League to support legislation in this area if it is proposed. We would want these programs available for all Indians not just those on public assistance.

There were several minor areas of agreement:

The \$20,000 state scholarship money was not enough.

The Indian Affairs Commission should assume the responsibilities authorized for the Commissioner of Public Welfare.

We hope the League will investigate very carefully any proposed legislation to be sure it adequately covers the programs we wish set up.

For Health we should use existing agencies rather than create new agencies.

We should preserve Indian cultures on the reservations for historical purposes.

Why:

The Indian Affairs Commission should have an "action" function which needs greater appropriations to become effective.

Just giving financial help is not the answer. We want to help them to help themselves. They come into the cities now completely unprepared to even live in quarters provided, with our modern conveniences.

The League of Women Voters could provide some strength which the Indians, because of lack of organization and leadership, do not have.

Do the members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? (Except for One Unit)

Yes and work actively.

The above report is for the Bloomington League of Women Voters except for One Unit. The report on this One Unit is as follows:

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs and regarding remedial programs we would like the League to take the following position:

Since the Indian Affairs Commission has been established and we supported its establishment, it would seem best to study the Commission's suggestions on these questions and then decide, after careful study, if we wish to support their suggestions.

It was felt the information supplied did not deal specifically with Indians causing problems, we might support the ideas for the Indians but not for the general public. The Commission will deal only with Indians.

We felt that the questions asked were unnecessary since our stand already shows how we stand on the question of State financial participation and we felt many items dealt mainly with the general public.

Do the members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? Since our stand supports the Indian Affairs Commission we should carefully study all their observations.

Many members expressed a desire to know what the Indians Affairs Commission has done and what plans, if any, they have for the future. Could we please have a report on this?

MAR 2 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # 1 and 2 LWV of Brainerd feels:

(your League)

That there should be state control and supervision ~~and centre~~ through the Indian Affairs Commission with a salaried Co-ordinator to administer the program.

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

over

Regarding remedial programs, unit # 1 & 2, LWV of Brainerd
(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

In favor of remedial programs but to be carried out under existing legislation.

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

Each member was given Capital Letter on Indian Affairs to read and a general meeting was held with John Poor, Indian Action Co-ordinator for the Dept. of Public Welfare, as speaker. Discussion and report made at the following meeting. The members feel strongly that something more must be done for the Indian and this program seems the best at the present time. They would like the League to work for Indian legislation at the next session, especially to get a salaried Co-ordinator for the Indian Affairs Commission.

I. Only through state supervision can there be equal standards for assistance and equalization of the tax burden throughout the state. It was felt there should, however, be some local citizen education to point out the need of state supervision.

II. It was felt that separate remedial education would tend to retard rather than speed integration. There is need for remedial services in the distressed areas and it was felt that this could be a combined program.

FEB 19 1964

Brooklyn Center's Indian Consensus

All five units felt that welfare should be carried on a state wide basis so that counties with a heavy outlay for Indian welfare could be reimbursed by the state. Most felt that some of the bitterness around the reservations would be decreased if this were done. Members felt need criteria on welfare and state residence requirements would be more workable.

As for A.D.C. payments to children of chronically unemployed our members favor this if safeguards (more social workers) are used to make sure the children benefit from the payment. A broad state wide base for these payments was much preferred.

Everyone felt that education, more scholarships, counseling and training for urban living were the ones bright hope for new generations of Indian children.

It will be costly now but be
cheaper in the long run. Because
with skills and self respect
the younger Indians will be
better citizens and self supporting.
We felt the League should
sponsore, support and lobby
for any legislation that
would further these aims.

We also we strongly in
favor of having an ~~executive~~
executive secretary for
the newly formed
Indian Commission - we're
behind you Mrs. Watson!!

Mrs. Robert Parish
Indian Recourse Ch.

FEB 7 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # 1, LWV of Chisholm feels:

(your League)

The state should help ^{all} counties with Indians financially,
It seems right for the state to take on more responsibility,
WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # 1, LWV of Chisholm
(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

These programs are necessary for this basically
is our only hope - to educate white as well as
the Indian.
WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

1. So many ~~state~~ counties are unable to assist according to I.B.A. standards. Couldn't something be worked out with all counties through the state, thus be able to qualify for I.B.A. help? If not, the state should see that counties are given help.

2. So few whites understand the Indian problem and its their responsibility (the Indian). We must give the Indian an objective and its thro study of the whys + etc - we must know what direction were going.

Lets make LWV an action instead of just a study group.

Lets watch the newly formed Indian Affairs Commission

87 1364

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # 2, LWV of Chesholm feels:

(your League)

the state should reimburse all counties for Indian welfare and insist upon standards to be followed.

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # 2, LWV of Chesholm

(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

Remove the land requirement restriction from federal laws pertaining to Indians in favor of need criterion.

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

#1 Why

Some counties can't afford a decent welfare for Indians plus the administration costs. By meeting standards required by the federal government the state can receive federal aids which up to now they have been unable to get.

#2 Why

Remove the land requirement restriction from federal laws pertaining to Indians in favor of need criterion. Education-particularly of Indians adults at this time. Seeing that welfare money is more wisely spent probably more in educating Indians in better money management.

FEB 7

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # 711, LWV of Chisholm feels:

(your League)

financial responsibility assumed by the state.

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # 711, LWV of Chisholm

(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

- ① Further education on the adult level.
- ② More money appropriated for scholarships.
- ③ The Indians should have to accept more responsibility.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

1. On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # IV, LWV of Chisholm feels:
(your League)

Our members feel that Indian welfare should be handled on the state and federal level. We recognize the necessity of administrative cost involved, that it will cost the white man money to even begin correcting the Indian problem, and that it's the state's responsibility.

1. WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

2. Regarding remedial programs, unit # IV, LWV of Chisholm
(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

Naturally all the remedial and educational programs mentioned are necessary and vital, so our hope is that the newly formed Indian Affairs Commission whose business it is to study costs and make recommendations as to where the need is greatest, will do so

2. WHY? (use other side) and make future reports of action taken available to us.

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

1. WHY? Indians should be a state responsibility because at present, counties with the least tax base, and least productive land have the greatest Indian population in Minn. and they are unable to adequately carry the load and efficiently help the Indian.

Also, they (Indians) should be a federal responsibility because if it hadn't been for the federal government in the first place, they wouldn't now be on reservations where their plight is so pitiful. Granted, reservations cannot now be done away with, but the individual Indian should have the opportunity to stay or leave it as he pleases and without the penalties which he seems to receive under the present residence requirements for welfare. Rather than withdrawing help during the first year off the reservation, this is the very time he should be given a chance and extra help to integrate into our society if he wishes. For those who choose to stay on the reservation, we should try to bring opportunities to them such as the proposed Great River Road. The Indian needs less welfare and more responsibility. He needs more and better work to do on the reservation to be a success at something in order to recapture even a shread of his former pride. Among other things, they should be encouraged to a reawakening of their unique cultural skills, such as canoe making, pottery making, weaving, bead work, etc., which are so artistically lovely and in danger at the present time of becoming extinct.

2. WHY? Here again high costs being one of the first stumbling blocks, we feel all Minn. counties should be taxed equally for Indian expenses, and then that the state should administer the money available so that at least Indians throughout the state could receive more equal treatment and not be snared in legislative and political loopholes! Obviously we favor state administration of Indian services, with the federal government sharing the financial burden.

disregard the back of this page *cont on the next paper*

Fed. Gov. gives aid to schools having 3% Indians - rec.

199.09 per Indian student per year. ← Parents live + work on Fed. land except Deer River gets more. $\frac{1}{2}$ That am. if work on private land.

Be familiar with Johnson-O'Malley Act

Health

Fed Gov. has major burden of financing

3 Ind. hosp. in Minn.

F. Gov. assumes no obligation for medicine
if Ind. moves from reservation.

Welfare = resp. of county or township - St. services must be available
Load esp. heavy on Northern counties

Point out location of reservations on page 23

Fed. Gov. helps only if st. county, or township doesn't

County viewpoint,
burden too great on counties where Ind. move to.

* The Fed. Bureau of Ind. Affairs has money for gen. relief of all Indians, but Minn. cannot take advantage of this because they can't meet Fed. requirements.

Now that the League has studied Indian Affairs for two years, let us not now pull out and forget about it, but rather on the state level at least, continue checking on the new commission for which we hold so much hope, and insist that something positive be accomplished -- that some action be taken instead of more talk, study, and planning.

One of our League members already has a report of "shady" politics being played in the choice of commission members. The League should immediately veto this nonsense if the commission is to get anywhere this time, and keep close tabs on the commission's activities in the state legislature. Though Indians should probably not be a study subject for local units for a while, the League as a whole should back nothing but fair play by the commission, watch them carefully, encourage them, and insist on action until policies are put into effect which are actually of help to the Minnesota Indian.

M E M O

TO: Local League Presidents and Indian Item Chairmen

FROM: State Board

We are referring consensus reports regarding Indians back to the local Leagues for clarification. It is our responsibility to evaluate what our members are thinking on this subject. We are not questioning the value of your statements -- the specific problem is related to whether or not your League's decisions relating to health, welfare and education are meant specifically for the Indian or for welfare in general.

There was a substantial consensus return. The summary of these returns seems to indicate:

1. First of all, a strong reiteration of support arrived at last year for the Indian Commission with the request that funds and professional staff be provided to allow it to satisfy our criteria.
2. Strongest support for remedial programs (for Indians only?), with the frequent comment that while programs may be costly now, it is cheaper in the long run. Particularly emphasized were vocational training and retraining, strong support of counseling for urban living, with recurrent mention of health, education, child care, etc.
3. Support for broadening the base for payment for welfare (for Indians only?) through state finance of welfare programs, and support also for the setting and enforcement of state standards. However, it was judged desirable that present local agencies distribute the funds to prevent duplication of function.
4. Some support for the abolition^{ing} of residence requirements for welfare (for Indians only?) between counties or townships within the state and state reimbursement for the administrative costs of such welfare programs as those mentioned above.
5. Conflicting conclusions on the question of ADC to the chronically unemployed.
6. An underlying philosophy that legislation should not single out a special group, that if laws need change, wherever possible it should be done without reference to a particular race, religion or national origin. (This philosophy was also expressed in your reports in 1963 but was not sufficiently strong to be included in our position.)

Interest was reported to be high, discussion lively and Leagues wanted to take action.

Two Leagues felt we should make no decision without further study of the question of welfare in general.

The question we put to you is: How does policy statement number 6 above relate to the rest? What does your League think?

Taking the above statements as they stand (deleting any reference to "Indians only") and combining them, we would come out with a statement of position such as the following:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota believes that legislation should not single out a special group. When laws are written, wherever possible, this should be done without reference to a particular race, religion or national origin.

We believe that the financial burden for welfare in general should be shared by the whole state in order to broaden the base for payment. We support the setting and enforcement of standards for relief by the state.

We wish to support remedial or educational programs, particularly in the areas of vocational training and retraining, counseling for urban living and adult education programs.

Is this acceptable?

Do you mean welfare in general or welfare for Indians?

If you mean the latter, how do you reconcile it with the policy statement relating to laws regarding special groups?

Do you think our study was sufficient to reach such positions on general welfare?

We are looking for agreement that is of sufficiently substantial proportions to warrant action on it.

Talk this over. Send your conclusions to State Council with your delegates. On the basis of the reporting of the Council delegates, the state Board will be able to determine the position which the members have reached.

We feel that as long as we have reservations, the Indian is a special group. We are not responsible for that. Legislation will have to single out this special group as far as voc. training, counseling, adult edc, edc. programs & perhaps welfare.

We do feel we need more study in the field of general relief ^{or welfare} also.

APR 27 1964

Christholm

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

FEB 7 1964

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # _____, LWV of Columbia Heights feels:

that the entire state should be responsible for the Indian & participate in the program to the fullest extent.

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of Columbia Heights (your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

Our League feels that much of the counseling should be done right on the reservations and also -

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

The discussion was very interesting and active. We feel that the state League should act on Indian legislation in the next session.

The federal government placed the reservations where they are now located. The counties in which the Indian reservations should not have to bear the brunt of the blow just because the federal government chose these areas. We feel the counties should still administer the program with state funds. We feel that the county and township administrators would know the individuals and the instances. However, there should be a state check program so that the minimum standard budget is at least met.

We find it very difficult to understand the reason for training some of the Indians as Washed or any of this so basic citizens. Why don't the Minn. Indians train at the example; Dunwoody, Vocational? We didn't find any statistics as to Indian attendance in these fine schools. We are in hopes that a state group could head all of the private organizations and agencies. Together they could achieve much more than separately. Perhaps the private organizations could aid greatly in adult education through classes in maternal & child care & nutritional help. The state could channel all private groups together or have each specialize in an area.

MAR 4 1964
League of Women Voters of Crystal
Indian Study Consensus

I On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs the Crystal League as a whole felt that state aid through the county was advisable. However, how much control the state should have over standards of assistance was not agreed upon. One unit felt that counties should control standards of assistance, whereas another unit felt strongly that the state should strengthen its ~~laws~~ rules and regulations regarding welfare laws so that there would be uniform statewide laws for local governments to follow. This would result in less duplication, more efficiency, more coordination between agencies, therefore offering the Indian a more stable welfare program.

II Regarding remedial programs the Crystal League is emphatically in favor of a strong concentration, in the legislative session, on the needs of the Indian for vocational training, both adult

and high school level. We also feel that reading matter should be made available to outlying areas in the form of book-mobiles or some such idea. The adult training programs now in effect are inadequate and are located too far away from the Indian home and family to keep him interested. We, therefore, favor a remedial program consolidating local school buildings and talents to retrain or prepare him for work. There must be a job placement agency working in conjunction with the Training program.

Several of our members were in favor of an internal "Peace Corps" to help Indian families, or any other distressed Americans.

We feel the League should keep a watchful eye on procedure taken in the River Road project to see that the Indian is kept aware of the plans as they concern him and his land.

MAR 2 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, units # 1 & 2, LWV of Deephaven, Minnesota feels:

(your League)

see reverse side

WHY?

(use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, units # 1 & 2, LWV of Deephaven, Minnesota

(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

see reverse side

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs our units feel that reimbursement to the counties for the cost of Indian Welfare programs should be 100%, including administrative ~~cost~~ expenses, with control remaining within the local counties. However, we feel that minimum standards should then be set by the state. The members felt that the Commission on Indian Affairs should be ready with an alternative program should the above proposal lack support.

On the subject of remedial programs the members feel that expenditure of monies should be limited to the teaching of reading and writing and vocational training, the latter to include the fullest development of talents and/or skills inherent in the individual at the time of training, stressing immediate goals -- to become self supporting. We suggest also that funds now available only for college education be diverted to remedial education, whenever possible, with less emphasis on college level education until more Indians are ready for it.

All felt the material was well presented. Most members remembered last year's meetings on the subject of Indian affairs and discussions were lively and thorough, with the members feeling strongly in agreement with the consensus reached. A few wondered if the Indians worried about their problems as much as we did.

Our members do want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session.

January 21, 1964

Consensus report on Indians from the Duluth League of Women Voters

JAN 21 1964

I. Financial participation in welfare programs.

The members of the Duluth League of Women Voters feel strongly that the financial burden for welfare costs should be shared by the whole state. We would like to see uniform standards throughout the state in regard to administration, amount of aid, residence requirements etc. Locally administered programs seem to have many drawbacks, and we would like to see the state responsible, as it has become in the areas of health and education. The withdrawal of the guardianship idea and equal treatment of all citizens has met with obvious success in these two fields, and we see this as pointing the direction that welfare programs should take.

We favor aid to the children of the chronically unemployed. Several of our units felt that the League should work actively for the passage of this bill.

II. Remedial programs.

Most of our units mentioned the new commission and felt that we must see that it is strengthened and receives the appropriations that are needed to make it effective.

Another idea that cropped up in most of our units was that, on the spot work on the reservations by a sort of domestic peace corps would have tremendous value. This, it seems to us, would be the most effective way of dealing with the problems referred to on the consensus sheet.

We would like to see money appropriated for remedial programs. It is sad to see programs like Operation Awareness and the Homemakers Service abandoned for lack of funds. Expenditures in this area must be looked on as an investment in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Wm G. Boyce

Mrs. Wm. G. Boyce
State Item I Chairman
League of Women Voters
Duluth, Minnesota

APR 21 1964

League of Women Voters
514 Lyceum Building
Duluth, Minnesota
April 21, 1964

League of Women Voters
State Organization Service
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota

To the members of the State Board:

The Duluth League of Women Voters felt strongly in their original consensus and still do that Indians should be treated like all other needy citizens as far as welfare is concerned. We do not feel that they should have special treatment. From our studies and interviews with people directly involved with the St. Louis County Welfare Department we do feel that there is need for improvement in our welfare laws on a statewide basis. It seemed to us that the welfare program would operate more economically and efficiently if it were financed at the state level and if standards were set and enforced at the state level.

Remedial programs are so closely related to welfare problems that we find it difficult to separate them. We look on expenditures in this area as an investment in the future. Potentially, we see vocational training and retraining, counseling for urban living, and education in the health and homemaking areas as a way of lightening the welfare load in years to come. Here again, we see such programs as a benefit for all citizens who are in need of them, not just Indians. Programs of this type would necessarily be different for Indians who live on a reservation than they would be for workers displaced by automation etc.

We hope that this statement will help to clarify our position.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wm G. Boyce

Mrs. Wm. G. Boyce
State Item I Chairman
2700 Minnesota Avenue
Duluth 11, Minnesota

EDINA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
CONSENSUS ON INDIAN STUDY

MAR 5 1964

March 1, 1964

All seventeen units of The Edina L.W.V. responded to the call for consensus on State Item I, The Indian Study.

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs, The Edina League members are in agreement that the reimbursement to counties in the state for the cost and administration of Indian relief is a reasonable and justifiable state expenditure. Only one unit did not feel that it was worth diminishing local control to secure a broader base for payment and establishment of more uniform and adequate standards of assistance. The remaining units reluctantly, but realistically, after thorough discussion, faced up to the conclusion that state participation offered better long-term solutions than did inequitable local determination in welfare problems. In line with this thinking, members felt that present township and county residence requirements were obsolete, and only served to increase and complicate administrative problems of welfare. Again and again, the units voiced the hope that, in some way, local knowledge of local situations could be respected and utilized, even with more state controls. There was unanimity of opinion that, in rejecting state participation in the federal program of ADC to the chronically unemployed, the Legislature had acted prudently. It was suggested by one unit that state administration of relief, with abolishment of local residence requirements, be set up on a metropolitan area basis, rather than on a county basis, with a flexible formula to be applied in different areas according to a cost of living index for each area.

Regarding remedial programs, The Edina League would like to see a much greater expansion of programs for training the young Indian adult in marketable vocational skills, rather than press for an increased number of college scholarships at the present time. Additional counseling for urban living ranked next in urgency, followed by concern for health education in its various forms. The units do fear that the costs of any such remedial programs would be very high, but that when measured against mounting relief costs and continued "problems" with such a high proportion of the Minnesota Indian population, the outlook is not so discouraging. Members would wish to know specific legislative plans and cost figures, before committing themselves to support and lobby for such proposals.

Throughout all of the consensus reports, there was strong feeling evidenced that The Minnesota L.W.V. should work towards making the newly-established Indian Commission a strong, adequately-financed, and influential action group in the state, with as few political overtones as possible. They would like to see an executive secretary secured immediately. Then the State L.W.V. could support this Commission, and offer its services in lobbying and in pushing for remedial programs, revamped welfare services, etc.

Mentioned by many units was the idea of a domestic "Peace Corps", specifically trained for a mission to Indian reservations and Indian communities (to be federally financed). Some units were hopeful that new and upcoming programs of the Area Redevelopment Administration of the federal government, in depressed areas adjacent to Indian lands in the state, would aid the Indian in his search for employment.

One unit would like to see a Field office, of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, established in the Twin Cities, as soon as possible (they feel that this is something the Indians themselves want).

Another unit emphasized that existing state programs should be utilized "to the hilt", such as library services, and agricultural extension work (including 4-H Club).

One unit was adamant about canceling the "non-cancelable" \$50,000 for the acquisition of Indian lands, appropriated by the 1963 Legislature.

Several units mentioned that greater care in the selection of teachers for schools in heavily-populated Indian areas should be the chief aim in the education program, since motivation of these students towards completion of high school and higher standards of achievement can be materially affected by these teachers.

A "halfway house" for Indians in transition between the reservation and the city, with church groups uniting in this project, under the authority of the Commission on Indian Affairs, was proposed by one unit.

Many members expressed the conviction throughout this year's study, that certainly a far more effective means of communication between the federal (B.I.A.) and state (Indian Commission) agencies and the Indian citizenry in Minnesota must be found, since lack of such seems to be a chief stumbling block at the present time. Madison Avenue techniques for the L.W.V. ???

Mary Ellen Haw

Mary Ellen Haw (Mrs. Nathan S.)
State Item I, Edina L.W.V.

MAR 2 1961

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # _____, LWV of Exeter feels:
(your League)

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of _____
(your League)
would like the League to take the following position:

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

*I believe the enclosed clearly states the feelings
of our League units better than I could re-
write a composite thought.*

*Sincerely yours
J. Hall*

Consensus of A. M. Group on Minn. Indians - January 28th, 1964

Unanimous consensus as follows (10 present - 9 members and 1 visitor)

We are for a State commission or agency as set up in the consensus of last year (1963). This is stated on the bright blue sheet.

In specific areas that we were asked to comment on:

Welfare: Some part of local control may have to be given up in return for State funds and establishment of State standards (i.e. retain local Board of Welfare control of funds, made available on an equitable basis throughout the State of Minnesota.) (A present example of this is State Aid to Schools) Local School Boards administer funds from State if their schools measure up to State standards.

Remedial Education: We should support legislation giving Indians equal opportunity for vocational training or re-training and education including adult education etc. as is available to any other citizen of the State of Minnesota even if this involves setting up training centers on a basis other than population.

LaVonne Jacobsen, Unit Chairman

ATTENTION EXCELSIOR LEAGUE MEMBERS -- Please read this and write on it

your approval or disapproval. Make comments to enable me to report a fair consensus.

1. We, the Excelsior League of Women Voters would like to have the League of Women Voters of Minnesota propose and, or, support legislation for state administration of federal funds and local county welfare programs. *Indian* The state of Minnesota should allocate funds to help the Indian population become self-sufficient and to improve their standard of living -- to raise it to meet at least an average income of a wage earner in this state. We would like to have them benefit through education, on-the-job training, etc. More materially, by the customs and inventions and laws of our system, without altering their location or way of life drastically, and especially, never without considering them.

We want to help them to avail themselves of all federal benefits, services, and monies offered. We would like to have a state commissioner agency assume this responsibility. We would not care to support this so-called "effective agency, permanent and staffed by professionally qualified people, etc." unless it was a very practical agency -- a group of dedicated, interested, well-trained people (sort of a Minn. Peace Corps) ready to leave the big city and establish themselves on the reservation, from which point they could work for the welfare and the well being of the Indians. We would rather have this agency promote and utilize, instead of manipulate, state and federal services and funds.

2. First things first -- What good are remedial programs before people have the basic necessities of life? Adult education courses can begin anytime after these unfortunate people learn to read and write or to run a refrigerator, washing machine or a fuse box. What good is a course in typing or home economics without a job opportunity or a decent home?

Jerry Holl
Chrmn. State Item

Comments please...

6 support legislation only
3 propose + support

MAR 5 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # II, LWV of Falcon Heights feels: (over)
(your League)

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # I, LWV of Falcon Heights
(your League)

would like the League to take the following position: (over)

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

Welfare Programs

The state should assist those counties overburdened, in relation to their tax bases, with relief cases (whether Indian or non-Indian). There should be some state supervision of these funds. An equitable formula for aid and a feasible means of supervision requires more detailed information than is available to this unit. It is suggested that this is an area in which the Indian Commission and related state agencies might work together.

Remedial Programs

The long range and basic solution to the problems of the Indian must be in the area of education and training. This unit strongly favors support of those measures which, although temporarily costly, will lead to greater self sufficiency for the Indian and an eventual diminution of constantly recurring welfare costs. Legislation leading to a lessening of the problem should be supported by the League.

Spurmont

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # II, LWV of Falcon Heights feels:

(your League)

the financial burden should be shared by the whole state
administration - Possibly a Local committee and County Agency consisting of the
auditor, commissioner, representative citizen, state supervisor or agent. This committee
WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation) would determine both program
and use

Regarding remedial programs, unit # II, LWV of Falcon Heights
(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

We are in favor of vocational retraining
to help the Indian become a self-sufficient citizen.

WHY? (use other side) It may be cheaper over the years.

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? yes
Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? yes
Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

We felt the financial burden should be shared by the whole state since counties with a large Indian population are usually distressed county. It is felt aid to Indians should be above subsistence level and we feel the counties are unable to do this on their own. Also the burden on the county may stimulate prejudice. It was felt this is a state responsibility and more fair to have the state share the financial burden.

Consensus taken following a Resource Leader and Discussion type of unit meeting. The didn't have any strong feelings as to what type of Indian legislation to work for in the next session. Felt that self-sufficiency of the Indian would be slow but could be accomplished with help of the Agency (Indian Affairs Comm) that was set up in 1963.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # III, LWV of Falcon Heights feels:

(your League)

WHY?

(use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # III, LWV of Falcon Heights

(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

~~Because we feel this is the only way to see
start can make a start for helping them.~~

1. The tax base should be broadened to include the whole state to relieve the burden on the County heavily populated with Indians.

Why? We feel it isn't the total responsibility of the counties concentrated with heavy Indian population.

~~It's not the total responsibility of the countries concentrated with heavily Ind. population.~~

2. The League should support these programs regardless of cost. Perhaps the ~~newly created~~ growth of the newly-created Indian Affairs Commission will be able to help get this program going. However, we must strive for larger appropriations.

Why? Because we feel this is the only way we can make a start towards helping them.

- a. yes
- b. yes
- c. no
- d. yes

MAR 2 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # _____, LWV of Faribault feels:

(your League)

that the State should set a minimum for Welfare costs and insist on its enforcement..But we also feel that local administration of Welfare funds is more effective than State administration could ever be. (Other Side, please)

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of Faribault
(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

The thinking of the League seems to be that one or two areas of Remedial Work with the Indian citizens should be put into effect first (for example.. counselling for urban living..beginning first on the reservation and (Other Side)

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

Item #1....

We feel that counties should be reimbursed for any amounts over the State average which are spent for welfare costs for Indians. The responsibility for Indian Welfare is a State wide responsibility... and the expense should be born by the whole state...not by a few counties.

Item #2....

continuing the program in the large cities)...rather than attempting a number of relief programs at once. The League felt that much more information and study needs to be given to costs of the programs, methods of administration, etc., before a definite consensus can be reached on the question of Remedial programs.

Taking the above statements as they stand (deleting any reference to "Indians only") and combining them, we would come out with a statement of position such as the following:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota believes that legislation should not single out a special group. When laws are written, wherever possible, this should be done without reference to a particular race, religion or national origin.

We believe that the financial burden for welfare in general should be shared by the whole state in order to broaden the base for payment. We support the setting and enforcement of standards for relief by the state.

We wish to support remedial or educational programs, particularly in the areas of vocational training and retraining, counseling for urban living and adult education programs.

Is this acceptable?

Do you mean welfare in general or welfare for Indians?

If you mean the latter, how do you reconcile it with the policy statement relating to laws regarding special groups?

Do you think our study was sufficient to reach such positions on general welfare?

We are looking for agreement that is of sufficiently substantial proportions to warrant action on it.

Talk this over. Send your conclusions to State Council with your delegates. On the basis of the reporting of the Council delegates, the state Board will be able to determine the position which the members have reached.

The Faribault L.W.V. feels strongly that any position taken in regard to Welfare program should be as it relates to the Indian only.

Our study of the Indian problem has shown us that the Indians in Minnesota have special problems...and the only way to approach this is through special legislation. (Our League support of the Indian Commission certainly shows that we feel there are problems that are peculiar to the Indian citizenry.)

Our League feels that since we have made no study of the problem of general Welfare in Minnesota, we are unwilling to take a position on Welfare in general in the state.

M E M O

TO: Local League Presidents and Indian Item Chairmen

FROM: State Board

We are referring consensus reports regarding Indians back to the local Leagues for clarification. It is our responsibility to evaluate what our members are thinking on this subject. We are not questioning the value of your statements -- the specific problem is related to whether or not your League's decisions relating to health, welfare and education are meant specifically for the Indian or for welfare in general.

There was a substantial consensus return. The summary of these returns seems to indicate:

1. First of all, a strong reiteration of support arrived at last year for the Indian Commission with the request that funds and professional staff be provided to allow it to satisfy our criteria.
2. Strongest support for remedial programs (for Indians only?), with the frequent comment that while programs may be costly now, it is cheaper in the long run. Particularly emphasized were vocational training and retraining, strong support of counseling for urban living, with recurrent mention of health, education, child care, etc.
3. Support for broadening the base for payment for welfare (for Indians only?) through state finance of welfare programs, and support also for the setting and enforcement of state standards. However, it was judged desirable that present local agencies distribute the funds to prevent duplication of function.
4. Some support for the abolition of residence requirements for welfare (for Indians only?) between counties or townships within the state and state reimbursement for the administrative costs of such welfare programs as those mentioned above.
5. Conflicting conclusions on the question of ADC to the chronically unemployed.
6. An underlying philosophy that legislation should not single out a special group, that if laws need change, wherever possible it should be done without reference to a particular race, religion or national origin. (This philosophy was also expressed in your reports in 1963 but was not sufficiently strong to be included in our position.)

Interest was reported to be high, discussion lively and Leagues wanted to take action.

Two Leagues felt we should make no decision without further study of the question of welfare in general.

The question we put to you is: How does policy statement number 6 above relate to the rest? What does your League think?

Fridley League

Postmarked
Feb 28, 1964

Consensus
Consensus of Membership on
Indian Item

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs:

About one-half the voting membership, 20 out of 45, favored reimbursement to counties for Indian relief. 12 of these 20, favored reimbursement to counties for Indian welfare according to formula based on needs of counties or townships provided they meet state welfare standards. 8 of these 20 favored reimbursement to counties if the counties met standards set and enforced by the state but control and disbursement of funds would remain with the county.

Exactly the same number of voters, 20 out of 43, did not favor reimbursement to counties for Indian relief as they felt that the present program of aid to distressed counties was adequate.

Three members abstained. One of the abstaining members felt that further study of the state welfare program was needed and this was also a strong general feeling. Some of the items of greatest concern were "Just what are the present state standards?"; "How could these standards be enforced?"; and "How do other states handle welfare on the state level?"

On the question of Aid to Dependent Children of the Chronically Unemployed, 7 were in favor, 12 were opposed, and the remaining were either undecided or felt that this was a statewide welfare problem, not limited to Indians.

There was also a general feeling that residence requirements should be the same for every citizen but some provision should be made to close the gap which occurs when the reservation Indian loses his federal welfare coverage.

There was a strong majority feeling that there should not be a separate state agency for Indians and that local control should be maintained. However, as stated above, there was also a strong curiosity expressed about state standards and how they are handled by other states.

Regarding remedial programs:

Of the 43 voting members, approx. 53% (23) were in favor of remedial programs and would favor the league backing legislation in this area because they felt remedial programs to be a part of the solution to the over-all problem.

44% (19 out of 43) felt that Indians should be encouraged and guided into any adult educational or vocational training programs now available to all citizens of the state (also any programs that might be available in the future) but they did not favor any special legislation on remedial programs for Indians alone. Two of these voting nay mentioned that they felt the Indians do need special help but that it should be within the present framework of remedial programs -- possibly through a specially trained Indian worker on county welfare boards. There was a definite feeling from 12 of this group that urban orientation programs need to be emphasized and geared toward integrating the Indian and guiding him toward available programs and services. These same 12 felt that the cultural heritage of the Minn. Indian should be looked into and ways of promoting and perpetuating their culture be formulated. They wanted some study to be made to determine how industries could be established on or near reservations utilizing Indian culture.

There was one abstention.

One unit (11 persons) felt that the Indian Affairs Commission should declare and specify areas where the state is responsible for Indians and that the Commission be adequately empowered and financed to accomplish its duties as stated in the bill.

MAR 2 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # _____, LWV of Granite Falls feels:
both units (your League)

that the federal and state governments should give financial assistance but administration and control should remain with the county.

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of Granite Falls
both units (your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

We favor a vocational retraining program using the facilities that are now available for all. We do not favor a new program set up just for the Indian unless there are no existing facilities; these would
WHY? (use other side) not be for Indians only.

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

Financial Participation: The state should reimburse counties for welfare costs. Control should remain in the county to avoid duplication of administrative costs and to keep local determination.

Remedial programs: There is need for retraining programs but as there are classes available in community it is a matter of getting the Indian to participate.

Indian legislation: The morning unit felt they could give no definite suggestion here as they did not know in what area the legislation might be. They also mentioned that ADC to the chronically unemployed would tend to broaden the welfare program unnecessarily as those in need would no doubt already be covered thru welfare.

MAR 2 1964

INDIAN STUDY

Consensus REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # 1,2,3, LWV of Hibbing feels:

4-5,6 (your League)

In total agreement with the 1963 consensus

That the financial burden should be assumed by the entire state to broaden base of payment. Need to coordinate agencies working with

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation) Indian.

Regarding remedial programs, unit # , LWV of (your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

There was good discussion, helped by having this topic for two meetings last year. Many of our members have visited the Nett Lake Reservation or have talked directly to people working with Indians.

WHY? (use other side)

We want the LWV to act on Indian legislation in the next Minn. Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to leg. the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

Each unit had: A number of copies of Indians in Minnesota
Indian Consensus as announced LWV Convention May 1963
Capitol letter on Indian Affairs
LWV list of questions on Indian Welfare, Education, Health
Map of Minn. locating Reservations
Copy of Minn. Plan of Indian Education (p 9-10,
MEA Journal Dec. 1963) enclosed
Proposed Discussion Outline on Indian Study

We feel there is need for special programs until Indian is assimilated better into the rest of the population. Reservation life often leads to personal apathy. Need for developing handicrafts and small industry for those who chose to stay on reservation. Educational facilities should be of the best, as the young Indian must be reached to raise the level of opportunity. We found in visiting Nett Lake that the Indians are very appreciative of their beautiful school, good teachers and are attending regularly. One question raised was what could we do to support Waite House, where we understand the Indian is being helped in his adjustment to city life.

One of the Indian leaders at Nett Lake said "Little can be done with many of the old folks, we must work with the young. We are encouraging them to get as much education as possible, we are giving the high school students a place to study in the school when the bus brings them from Orr."

Our members feel strongly about the Indian problem. Any thing we can do in this matter we will be glad for participation.

the
Whatever the cost of a program for Indians, should result
in time ~~the~~ decided gain in money for the state of Minnesota.
There are other satisfactions but this cost is always uppermost
because of tax problems

Education for All

Minnesota's Plan of Indian Education

Erwin F. Mittelholtz
Guidance Consultant, Indian Education
State Department of Education

INDIAN EDUCATION is public school education for all Indian students in Minnesota and has been since 1936 when the state signed its first contract with the Department of Interior through the Bureau of Indian Affairs to take over all Indian education in Minnesota. The first contract was for \$82,900. Exceptions were the Pipestone Indian School, which was discontinued in 1955, and two Catholic parochial schools, one at White Earth with 125 students and one at Red Lake with about 250 students.

Indian education is under the state Board of Education and is a unit of the Elementary and Secondary Section of the Division of Instruction. A director of Indian education is located in the state office and is the liaison between the State Department of Education and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. He arranges the contract funds made possible by the Johnson O'Malley Act of 1934 (JOM) and makes pay-



Students at Bemidji SC—Betty Garrigan, Red Lake, Adonnis Keahna, Mahnomen, and James S. Strong, Red Lake—swap pleasantries and pertinent data at the library's special reference book stand.



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FEB 14 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

I. On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # 101, LWV of Hutchinson feels:

(your League)
that the state should take on full financial responsibility -

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

II. Regarding remedial programs, unit # , LWV of Hutchinson would like the League to take the following position:

below

WHY? (use other side) *↓*

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

II. Regarding remedial programs -

Indian problems should be handled by the state with legislation passed to unify all counties on an equal taxation basis. The Indian Commission is a step in the right direction. It should be an action group and will need more funds than have been granted at the present time.

Why? *Counties contributing on a unified tax basis and operating under uniform statewide rules for welfare amounts would make the state eligible for funds from the Bureau of*
(over)

State Financial Participation in welfare Programs -

Why?

Not all counties are able to cope with the burden of heavy welfare needs, while having only small amounts of taxable lands. The Federal Government is not adequately providing and the counties are not able to adequately provide so the State must assume this responsibility.

Why? (can't form front)

Indian affairs. League should work for legislative action in the areas covered by unsuccessful bills - S.F. #1319, S.F. #28 and S.F. #274 of the last legislature. These bills appeared to be very worthy of League support and deserve an attempt to solve some of the welfare problems of the Indians in Minnesota, as well as the problems of the poorer counties with large Indian populations.

Some members feel quite strongly that the Dept of Interior has been disorganized and wasteful in the Federal Approach to Indian Problems and should be investigated with a possible reorganization.

FEB 19 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # I, LWV of Mahtomedi feels:

(your League)

The state should appropriate money but it should be administered locally

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # I, LWV of Mahtomedi
(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

That any such programs should be checked for cost thoroughly to see if it would be worthwhile

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

Comments

We should make a broad policy statement regarding Indians. We should consult the Indians, who seem to be disregarded before doing this. The state should support and implement the commission created by the last legislature. The State should make adequate appropriations and see that it has qualified people on it.

We should utilize all Federal aid available since this Indian problem is a unique one which is a national responsibility as well as a state one.

Legislation including Indians only, applying to reservations for example, should take into consideration Indians first. We feel that some sort of pilot project on any of the remedial programs should be done first in one place to see if the programs accomplish anything. We would like to see a pilot project integrating peoples off the reservation into another community. We would try to change the atmosphere so that Indians can have some pride in being Indians rather than feeling themselves 2nd class citizens.

Feelings were strong including the feeling that if programs were to be costly the money must be spent to accomplish the deed.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # 2, LWV of Mahtomedi feels:
(your League)

WHY? The state should be financially responsible but with better use
Made of Federal monies available.
(use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # 2, LWV of Mahtomedi
(your League)
would like the League to take the following position:

WHY? That remedial programs including the reeducation of the white
people are necessary and cost should be a secondary consideration
(use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

Comments

Between state and federal money, there seems to be adequate funds available for Indian welfare. There seems to be a lack of co ordination in the spending of the these funds - Welfare should not continue to be used as a pallative but should work toward rehabilitation so that general relief or poor relief costs would not remain fo high. A program in which welfare money could be repaid in whole or part like student loans might give the Indians more of a feeling of belonging and not perpetuate the four and five generations relief families.

Remedial programs in all phases are important. Necessary spending is cheaper in the long run if it can return people to the labor force and in turn these would pay taxes instead of adding to welfare costs -

Feelins ran high on the subject of welfare costs and all took part in the discussion. The problems relations to Indians seem to be the same as to other depressed minority groups and solution of one would help all.

MAR 9 1964

INDIAN STUDY

CONSENSUS, MAPLEWOOD LWV

* Maplewood LWV is in general agreement that state financial participation in welfare programs is necessary, with differing opinions as to method. Various suggestions:

1. state and federal funds to be pooled and administered by state agency
2. federal funds to states with large Indian populations; state funds to counties with large Indian populations
3. state funds to be administered by counties according to uniform standards set up by state (no distinction between counties with Indian recipients and those without Indians)
4. social security-type set-up---federal law administered by state

One unit also indicated that Minnesota should participate in ADC of chronically unemployed.

Regarding residence requirements, state participation in welfare programs would eliminate loss of residency for Indians moving off reservations, or from one county to another. There should be no differentiation between Indian and non-Indian in residence requirements.

* Maplewood LWV regards remedial programs to be essential to the attainment of self-sufficiency of the Indian.

Remedial program suggestions:

- vocational training and re-training
- cultural training (appreciation of own heritage, as well as knowledge of life in larger society)
- basic training in health, nutrition, sanitation, etc.
- use of county agents and home economists
- encouragement of labor unions to cooperate with high schools in broadening apprenticeship programs
- furnishing of legal counsel to tribes to protect rights on recreational project lands
- surveys of Indian lands for purpose of determining types of and sites for business and industry, and establishment of business and industry
- development of recreation projects on Indian land in non-commercialized way
- utilization of Indian in seasonal employment by various departments of state
- more scholarships
- use of counselors

Other comments pertaining to remedial programs:

- State should not dole out money on gift basis, but use it in setting up programs of practical value.
- Programs should not be stop-gap measures, but set up on continuing basis.
- Programs must be remedial, not merely sustaining.
- Adult should be educated as well as child, with incentives and encouragement for both to improve situation.
- Program opportunities should be available to all citizens, not just Indian, to avoid reverse discrimination and to help all those in need.
- Indian Affairs Commission should be strengthened:
 - appropriation of more funds
 - hiring of executive director
 - representative of LWV on commission
 - use of commission in determining and carrying out remedial programs
 - authority to take action, not just study
- Peace corps idea might be used---rehabilitation corps to help Indian help himself.
- All citizens should be educated to recognition and acceptance of Indian as first class citizen.
- Only qualified personnel should be used on reservations.
- Special tax resources to finance adequate program could be exploited.
- Initial cost would be great, but worthwhile programs would pay for themselves in the long run.
- Federal funds should be extended to all Indians, not just those on reservations.

There appeared to have been good discussion and general interest in this study item, with the feeling that some immediate action should be taken. The LWV should act to secure more funds for the Indian Affairs Commission, and should support such legislation as would be favorable to LWV position as arrived at through this state-wide study. What legislation we support would depend on what legislation is proposed and how it compares with LWV criteria.

Incidental comments taken from unit chairmen's reports, not on consensus forms:

- "too much giving of money and nothing to back it up"
- "Indians need more incentive"
- "Promote better education (not in segregated schools) and help Indian develop past culture"
- "Special Indian schools to reflect social and economic standards (make it possible to identify.)"
- "Boarding schools to take children out of home environment."
- "Time to start action, not more study."

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # 1, LWV of Maplewood feels:
(your League)

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # 1, LWV of Maplewood
(your League)
would like the League to take the following position:

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

*Yes the discussion was complete & thorough.
Unit #1 members agree that some immediate
action should be taken but also agree
that anything done now should be
on a lasting basis - that it will also
be many years before efforts at the
present time will show progress & patience
is necessary.*

Financial participation in Welfare Programs -
Why -

Unit #1 of Maplewood believes state money should provide guidance & inspiration toward self-sufficiency. Peace Corps type of organization recommended to be used. We believe this would provide better results with a more efficient use of monies.

Regarding remedial programs -

State should contribute, but not for welfare ^{as} in the past by doling the money ~~and~~ on a gift basis but the money should be used to set up programs to further practical education to teach self support.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

1. On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # III, LWV of Maplewood feels:
(your League)

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

2. Regarding remedial programs, unit # III, LWV of Maplewood
(your League)
would like the League to take the following position:

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole league. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

2. We feel that the L.W.V. should have a representative on the Navaho's Commission, to insure action, i.e. this Commission will not turn out to be just another study group. We also feel that League should back more financial aid to this Commission. The funds allocated by the last Legislature do not give them a chance to take any action.

The Dept of Business Affairs is making surveys in various parts of the state looking for future businesses. Are any such surveys conducted on Indian reservations? Would it be possible for various state departments - such as highway or conservation - to utilize Indians in seasonal employment?

We would favor a program promoting vocational and cultural opportunities; the establishment of reservation industries; developing the Indian reservations as "good" tourist attractions in our state - not to be commercialized; in the future send only qualified personnel to reservations as teachers.

1. We feel that the state should carry some of the financial burden since the Indian problem is a state problem.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

- (1) On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # 4, LWV of Maplewood feels:
(your League)

(over)

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

- (2) Regarding remedial programs, unit # 4, LWV of Maplewood
(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

*Better education for the Indian and recognition of the
Indians as a first class citizen.*

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

Our discussion was complete and thorough. All (to the Indian) members feel very strongly that all welfare should be administered by the state so that if the Indian moves off the reservation he may have welfare benefits immediately in any part of the state. We feel the League should act on Indian Legislation in the next session. If we could secure State administration of funds we feel we could do better help the Indian. (One suggestion was a set-up such as Social Security - Federal Law administered by the state)

① Financial participation in the welfare programs should ^{be} by a state agency, pooling state and federal funds. Federal ^{Aid} and State Aid administered wholly through a state agency would eliminate local responsibility where funds are inadequate and administration inefficient.

②

- (a) Promote education of the Indians through more scholarships so that the Indian may teach his own people and help his people to develop past cultures. Schools should not be segregated.
- (b) Also the white man must be made aware to change his attitude toward the Indian and accept the Indian as a first class citizen.
- (c) Counselors should be able to guide and aid the Indian student to desire better education so that he would want to raise his standard of living.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # 5, LWV of Maplewood feels:
(your League)

State funds should be available to help counties with large Indian populations. However, the standards
WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # 5, LWV of Maplewood
(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

State funds should be made available for vocational retraining, adult education in such basics as nutrition, health ed. sanitation etc.
WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

for making ~~the~~ funds available should be changed. Counties should administer funds but the state should set up uniform standards. Every effort should be made to help the welfare recipient independent (job retraining - new jobs & industries)

The ^{Adult} Indian needs to be helped so that they and the children can work together to improve their situation. If only the child ~~it~~ is taught, he finds it difficult to change home situation.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

1. On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # 6, LWV of Maplewood feels:

(your League)

that the present situation shows inequalities that could be most readily corrected by county administration of state funds, under state standards realistic enough for the counties to abide by. It is felt that this would WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

2. Regarding remedial programs, unit # 6, LWV of Maplewood

(your League)

would like the League to take the following position: Remedial programs such as vocational re-training, health education, and many others, are necessary to attaining improved status (with regard to health, employment, housing, education, etc.) and self-sufficiency for the Indian, but WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. 3. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual?

4. Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

1. be more effective and efficient than under the current system of unstandardized and varying requirements for assistance. If one county is to be reimbursed for Indian welfare costs, all counties with Indian welfare recipients should be. However, if all counties administered assistance to all eligible recipients, using state funds and definite standards, the distinction between Indian and non-Indian could be discontinued, and no county would rate or need special legislative treatment. The general feeling is that benefits to be gained outweigh the loss of local control.

As to residence requirements, there should be no differentiation between Indian and non-Indian; the same requirements should apply to all citizens. Any change in standards to further distinguish the Indian from the non-Indian would only tend to discriminatory circumstances and would negate the ultimate goal of integrating the Indian citizen into society as a whole. If state funds are administered by the county, any citizen should be able to move from county to county and still maintain state residency requirements, which should be the criteria for receiving state monies (from one county at a time.)

It is also generally agreed that Minnesota should participate in the program of ADC of chronically unemployed. (Why hasn't legislature passed this?)

Federal funds should be available to Indians according to need and not according to land status.

2. the programs must be carefully planned and carried out to be remedial and not merely sustaining. Such programs, if they are to do more than support the individual, would be costly at first, but should pay for themselves in the long run, through better educated, more productive, more integrated citizens as assets to the total society. (These program opportunities could be available to all citizens, non-Indian as well as Indian, that all might benefit from them, and that reverse discrimination not occur.) The areas of remedial programs and legislation would be logical concerns of the Indian Affairs Commission. Its suggestions and proposals should be thoughtfully considered and its advice sought. This commission could coordinate the work of the various agencies charged with carrying out such programs, and perhaps it could administer some of the programs. Federal funds for Indian scholarships, vocational training, etc., should be extended to all Indians, and not just those living on reservations. Perhaps the funds could be allocated to the various states to disperse according to the states definition of "Indian."

3. The discussion was entered into heartily by all members. It was serious and thoughtful, in an informal way. The members agree in general on the above-stated views, with no opposing minority views, and with fairly strong feeling. Individual comments are underlined, but placed in the context of the whole consensus.

4. Whether or not the League acts upon legislation in the next session would depend upon what legislation is proposed. The unit members do not wish to commit the League to support unknown bills. However, that legislation which answers favorably to the League criteria, and which carries out already-agreed-upon goals would be supported, in the interests of instituting remedial programs, etc.

UNIT 7 of Maplewood LWV, report on Indian study:

Money be appropriated for Indian Commission, that commission to hire an executive director of Indian Affairs. Perhaps explore special tax resources to finance adequate program for Indians.

1. some federal gov't financial help to spread cost over more than just states with large Indian population, also within state to help poor counties.
2. furnish legal counsel to tribes to protect their rights on recreational project lands.
3. use plenty of county agents and home economists to teach them 20th century ways.
4. possibility of rehabilitation corps to help Indians in agriculture, home economics, welfare, etc.
5. vocational rehabilitation program for Indians.
6. encourage labor unions to cooperate with high schools to broaden apprenticeship programs.

MAR 9 1964

March 4, 1964

Consensus on Indians

With 35 of the 45 units responding, the LWV of Minneapolis has come to the following consensus:

Although this question was not asked of the units, several independently reiterated the importance of League support to strengthen the Indian Affairs Commission. One unit made the following comment, which reflects many comments from other units:

"Since the Indian Affairs Commission is so new it has not yet had an opportunity to serve its purpose. It seems obvious that the biennium appropriation of \$20,000 is inadequate. We should work for an appropriation which will permit the hiring of an executive director and such staff as is necessary. It is expected that suggestions and recommendations for legislation will come from this commission after study and evaluation of the efforts, and problems, of the various agencies whose purposes relate to Indian needs."

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs:

30 units support reimbursement to counties by the state for Indian relief. 23 of the units favor reimbursement for administrative costs also. Only 16 of the units favor abolishing or modifying residence requirements for Indians. Others suggested that this would cease to be a problem if the state reimbursed counties and that the federal government ought to help out until new residence is established. 18 units (about $\frac{1}{2}$) feel that the state should set uniform standards of assistance. Several units mentioned specifically the federal aid which would be available to Minnesota for public assistance to Indians if the state did set standards (p. 51 of Indians In Minnesota). Apparently 12 units favored increased financial participation by the state without diminishing local control, or else these units did not see the relationship clearly. The committee and the board questioned whether these considerations could be divorced from a consideration of the whole state welfare program. (i.e. set standards for Indian assistance in a county where there are no state standards for assistance in general).

14 units supported Minnesota participation in the federal program of ADC for the chronically unemployed. 3 units opposed this program, and 8 units felt there was not enough information available about this program to make a valid decision. The committee agreed with this last opinion.

Regarding remedial programs, units had a variety of suggestions of which the following appeared most frequently: (many mentioned the necessity of state & federal cooperation in these programs)

Vocational counseling, vocational training, and vocational retraining, using funds from the federal man-power retraining act where available.

Adult education on and off the reservation: Health, improved sanitation, hygiene, home management and child care.

Counseling for urban living, both on the reservation and in the Twin Cities.

A significant number of units referred to various programs which would encourage students to complete high school. Most important, the committee felt, was the suggestion of state scholarships for junior high and high school students. Neither the federal government nor private groups have such scholarships available. A second suggestion concerned foster homes with board and room so that reservation students could live in town during the school year. Other units mentioned special orientation for teachers (as is now being done on a small scale in Minneapolis), raising of the compulsory school age, and adaption of the Federal Youth Development program to the reservation areas.

Three units mentioned peace corps type programs:

"A domestic peace corps to the reservation. Perhaps students who had federal or state loans to attend college could pledge a year of internship on a reservation. This would then void the debt. These students could perhaps in some cases be Indians. Students majoring in education, nursing, dental hygiene, medicine and social work would perhaps be considered."

"A state peace corps to work on reservations -- teachers, social workers, nurses, retired persons with abilities, etc. to help the Indians adapt to urban environment."

League of Women Voters

of Minnetonka Village

March 2, 1964

State Item I 1963-1964
Mrs. Harold Watson, Chairman
2140 W. Hoyt Avenue,
St. Paul 8, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Watson:

Question 1. All the membership with one or two exceptions thinks that the state should help the counties with large Indian population on their welfare costs involving Indians. Some mentioned that the state could better obtain federal funds and more wisely distribute to counties. All believed that the federal government should drop the residency requirement for Indians. Almost all felt that the state should set standards but should consider differences in local living conditions. All felt there should be a little to a lot of local control by those who know the individual Indian best. Many mentioned that these welfare funds were not just a "hand out" but Indians should accept some responsibility for bettering himself etc.. All wished to do away with county residency requirement so that Indian could be helped in his first year away from reservation and home county when he needs help most. Here again many mentioned how helpful it would be for Indian to have state funds and a state agency to fall back on as he makes a try for a new life.

Question 2. All saw the need for remedial programs for the Indian to help the Indian to help himself. All feel that this is worth the cost and would prove less expensive in the long run. These programs should be in the hands of experts. The members do want the LWV to take action and an active part in helping the Indians without meddling where they are not wanted.

Many asked about the Indian Affairs Commission and wondered how we could help as individuals and Leaguers.

Yours truly,

Mrs. George F. O'Leary
12822 Excelsior Blvd.
Minnetonka, Minnesota

55345

Mania O'Leary

*Special Delivery
Rec'd Mar 2*

TO: Minnesota League of Women Voters
State Organization Service
U. Of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minn.

FEB 18 1964

INDIAN STUDY

MOORHEAD Consensus Report

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as discussed in our units, the Moorhead LWV feels that a statewide county reimbursement program with accompanying state standards of assistance, which would take into account the varying cost of living in each county, would be a beneficial move. Since we reaffirm our position of state responsibility for Minnesota Indians, we feel it would be most advisable to broaden the tax base.

Regarding remedial programs, the Moorhead LWV takes the following position: we should implement present programs, especially vocational ones, rather than institute new ones. We feel a re-evaluation of present programs is necessary to determine how effectively they are being used and as a means of making them more available to more people. Basic education and counseling should be stressed. We support the Indian Affairs Commission as a research AND action group and would support League action on Indian legislation in the next session.

Additional comments:

Since all of our individual unit reports were so thorough and included many thoughts and feelings not covered by all and consequently not included in the above consensus, I thought you might be interested in seeing them. You will find them enclosed for your use if you so desire.

Mrs. Ed Ellenson, State Item I
1914 South Fifth Street
Moorhead, Minnesota 56560

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # I, LWV of Moorhead feels:

(your League)

state standards of assistance should be enacted along with reimbursement to all counties, with a view to broadening the tax base & equalizing the cost of welfare
WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation) *(over)*

Regarding remedial programs, unit # I, LWV of mhd

(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

Vocational training + rehabilitation, as our first educ. from childhood to adulthood & a public information program are our suggestions.
WHY? (use other side) *over*

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

Discussion was very lively. Our unit agreed very strongly. We would actively support legislation in next session. We support the IAC & will continue to work for additional appropriations

to Indians, since ^(why) this is a responsibility of the state as a whole. We feel residence requirements are necessary; ~~and that~~ ^{plus} are against ADC by chronic unemployed. We feel that a gradual lessening of welfare + promotion of self-sufficiency should be the long-range goal.

Why - St. of assist = in view of mobility of Indians, a State Standard ^{of assistance} in all counties, along with county reimb. would be a first step in equalizing welfare benefits statewide ~~improving~~ ^{and} Although we would be diminishing local control to a certain extent, distribution would still be on a local level; we would see merit in a study of ^{the state} welfare program as a whole ~~as~~ ^a means to help all citizens.

② Why: Educ., begun with children, must be followed up in the homes. We feel present vocational programs should be implemented rather than new programs started. If they are not being used now, - we must re-examine them + determine why they aren't. We support methods to make programs more available - for example - let's make sure those who are eligible, - know this fact. When public apathy disappears or lessens the Indian will have a better chance to make the transition from reservation life to urban life an easier process.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # II, LWV of Moorhead feels:

(your League)

that the state as a whole should be responsible for its Indians; not the particular counties where the Indians happen to live. The group preferred the state to handle problems without calling in the Federal government where possible.

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # II, LWV of Moorhead

(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

Strong support of remedial programs, particularly adult education and vocational training, as a means of eventual limiting of welfare programs.

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

The Unit II of the Moorhead LWV tried in their discussion to keep in mind what was best for the Indian in Minnesota--not just what was politically possible or what would be best for each county involved, etc. On this basis, most of the group agreed that reimbursement on a state-wide basis with an enforcement of good standards of assistance would solve problems of residence requirements within the state and would be generally of more use and benefit to the Indian than the present system. However, the group was very strong in their feeling that welfare per se was not what the Indian needs most. In other words, they didn't want to see the process of receiving welfare extended to more and more Indians and handed down from father to son always with the expectation of more. Therefore, if strong remedial programs could be connected with any increase in welfare and perhaps even made obligatory so that the ranks of the welfare recipients did not continue to grow, it would be most satisfactory. In applying this to Indian plight in the cities, for instance, the group mentioned the drop-out rate in school in Minneapolis which involves many things such as bad school situations, few counselors, as well as a 'relief' situation at home. In other words, to treat this situation, this group would not just give relief to the parents, but would encourage some sort of job training for the father and an attack on the school situation of the children, the housing situation, etc. In this way, and in other cases similar treatment, it was felt that the welfare dollar would not just be going down the drain in a ~~xxxxx~~ steady stream but would be doing more than just keeping the recipients alive.

(over)

The group realizes that such programs cost far more to administer than straight relief programs but felt it was better sense to rehabilitate these people and make them producing members of the state than to keep them continuously in a condition of seeking aid wherever and whenever they can get it and without any attempt to help them become self-sufficient.

The problem of ADC to the chronically unemployed was discussed at length but we did not feel we knew enough about how relief is handled to decide whether this should be expanded in Minn. now; or even how this would affect Indians. In general, the group felt (a) no one in this day and age should be poverty stricken in its strongest sense and (b) neither should we encourage a whole class of people to depend ~~until~~ ultimately and finally on the government to support them, their children, and grandchildren. Therefore, relief based on remedial care with its main object not supporting the family permanently but main object helping the breadwinner support himself, if even only working on assigned projects directed by the relief board.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # 3, LWV of Moorhead feels:

that such programs should be financed on a state-wide basis, with state supervision of minimum standards and conditions.

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # 3, LWV of Moorhead
(your League)

would like the League to take the following position: *they are necessary and desirable in an all-around attack on the Indian problem; existing programs should be re-evaluated, however, before new programs are enacted.*

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important **FILL IN THE WHY SECTION.** Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

Discussion was lively, and as thorough as time permitted. Members felt strongly about the responsibility of the state for making the best possible provisions so that Indians can find their functioning place in our democracy, and believe that the League should vigorously push for Indian legislation at the next session.

Welfare Programs

- the particular geographic location of our Indian population within the state at any one time may vary because of changing conditions, but this doesn't change the responsibility of the state as a whole for meeting their welfare needs

- the county (and township) system of meeting welfare needs is antiquated now and needs a thorough study - we felt that this is true not only for Indians but for other sectors of the population whose poverty is caused by factors refusing to fit within county boundaries, and suggest a study of the state welfare set-up as a fruitful possibility for League agenda - probably legislators will see Indian welfare problems as so closely related to other welfare that they would hesitate to place this one aspect only of the total welfare set-up under state control - however the League should work for state financial participation in Indian welfare programs as presently administered -

Remedial Programs

- members felt that education of the children was most basic and important but that much of the education being received was negated by the home atmosphere, so that all efforts to improve adult standards and conditions should be pushed vigorously - though never at the expense of basic education.

- League should press for a re-evaluation of present programs before proposing new ones that might be duplications, with every effort to implement what is already on the books, suggest more public health nurses, adult education & homemaker classes, public relations & information work so that Indians take advantage of available programs. There was enthusiasm for the domestic Peace Corps to become law so that many workers among the Indians would be available.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # 4, LWV of Maschead feels:
(your League)

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # 4, LWV of Maschead
(your League)
would like the League to take the following position:

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

(reverse side)

EXTRA: One of our members had a suggestion we thought was a good one. When foreign visitors come to this country they want to see "Cowboys and Indians". How nice it would be to have a tourist attraction developed that would be an area of "Old West" where Indians could look + act like their forefathers (teach them to bead + weave, etc) in an attractive setting (no dirt floor huts!!) that would be a world wide tourist attraction.

State Financial Participation

Unit 4 had active and lively discussion about counties being reimbursed for relief aid by the State. It was equated in our discussion to State Education Aid and it had the same advantages in our minds: the whole state facing the state's problem; the standardization of qualifications; the overburdened counties not suffering. We felt that additional advantages would be that counties which have large groups of Indians would not resent them if it was not their own financial problem and might aid the Indian in being well received when they move into an area.

The Administrative Costs of a State aid program was brought out as a detriment. However there ~~was~~ ^{are} other ~~advantages to State Administration~~ ^{advantages} such as better buying, Civil Service employees, and a uniform standard of Relief. Some felt concerned ~~about~~ ^{that} local authority was going to be jeopardized if there were relief standards set up on a statewide basis. However in our enthusiasm to begin solving the Indian ^{people's} problem in Minnesota, we feel the advantages outweighed the disadvantages and ~~we~~ ^{we} ~~cannot~~ ^{cannot} ~~endorse~~ ^{endorse} reimbursement to heavily burdened counties who have many Indians on Relief. We feel strongly about this agreement.

Remedial Programs: We are anxious to have legislation that would aid the Indian to find his place in our Society. Our legislator, Mr. Iseland, feels no additional special legislation on vocational education is necessary as there are opportunities available in our area vocational schools that are not now used. We had to concur with this unless presented with other information. We feel more information in the way of counselling should be available to the Minnesota Indians. We would like to have the final goal integration rather than maintaining the reservations.

Financial Portion in Indian Study
Welfare programs

- Unit V - feels: It is wise to establish a program
① of reimbursement to counties in order to broaden tax base; standards of assistance go hand in hand with county reimbursement. Some sort of residence requirement is necessary as a welfare guide. We are not in favor of ADC for chronically unemployed.

Why: tax base should be broadened if we subscribe to our previous consensus - of statewide responsibility of Indian. (There was general agreement on county reimb. - but some members had reservations =)

- ② Remedial: We support IAC + feel this would be the proper agency to work through for remedial programs. Rather than start new programs, we feel present ones should be employed to their fullest extent. If they are not used, they should be reevaluated - perhaps by IAC. It is vital that Indians become aware of such programs + use them.

Discussion was lively but only half members present had been at previous meeting + were prepared. We would support legislation or a lobbyist

JAN 17 1964

Mound

MW

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

The Committee on Indian Affairs, State Item 1, had two meetings in the month of November, 1963. Health, Education and Welfare received special emphasis in our discussions. A concensus was taken at each meeting for the purpose of assisting the League in further study of the complex Indian Affairs problem.

The Committee consisted of Beulah Aslakson, Bea Brophy and Naomi Pitts; each of whom presented their material admirably.

Pat Wysocky,

Chairman, State Item 1.

Enclosure:

Copies of concensus.

17 JAN 17 1964

CONSENSUS QUESTIONNAIRE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

In your opinion:	Yes	No
1. Minnesota should equalize aid throughout the state to allow us to qualify for Federal Funds.	<u>22</u>	<u>—</u>
2. Residence requirements for welfare assistance to Indians should be eased.	<u>23</u>	<u>1</u>
3. More Scholarships should be given to qualified Indians.	<u>16</u>	<u>—</u>
for secondary education	<u>17</u>	<u>3</u>
college scholarships	<u>16</u>	<u>2</u>
vocational training	<u>19</u>	<u>—</u>
4. By the payment of good salaries to qualified people Minnesota should attract and hold guidance counselors and professional public health people to help guide, train and teach Indians.	<u>17</u>	<u>—</u>
in the cities.	<u>18</u>	<u>—</u>
on the reservations.	<u>18</u>	<u>1</u>
5. Minnesota should provide aid to Indians in the area of Housing Developments.	<u>14</u>	<u>2</u>
6. The Indian philosophy is: "If one Indian starves, all Indians (of one tribe) starve."		
Can it be changed?	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>
Should it be changed?	<u>2</u>	<u>10</u>
7. What suggestions can you make to help Indians realize their potential by releasing the hold of the tribe on the individual?		
<i>See back</i>		
Should the above be done?	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>
8. How can understanding be improved between the Indian and the community?		

see back

PROPOSALS

- Indian Economic Problems and the administration of Justice will be emphasized by LWV statewide in 1964-65. Would you be interested in an overall picture of "Civil Rights on a local level" for the 1965-66 unit meeting?
- Would you be interested in a workshop on "Civil Rights on a local level" at a date earlier than the 1965-66 meeting?

13 3

15 4

6. Up to Individual Indians

7. Education of whites & Indians

coordinate agencies

help of whites who care to help Indians as individuals
hold should be reduced and eventually released
adult guidance

Provide better guidance & counselling to inform Indians

8. Education of whites & Indians - our own elementary
and secondary schools should do more than
make murals of Indian life

more meetings such as this one

Education of whites as to culture of Indians & the
problems this creates in integrating with
white cultures.

a steady paycheck would solve most all
serious misunderstandings & simplify adjustments

Learn to know each as cultural groups & as individuals

Educate whites as well as Indians

Mutual recognition & respect of cultural differences

FEB 19 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # _____, LWV of New Richmond feels:

(your League)

No. Co. Welfare Cannot take care of such a great problem.

WHY?

(use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of New Richmond
(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

Yes a great step up of remedial program on all fields is in demand.

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important **FILL IN THE WHY SECTION.** Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

Co. Welfare has not enough money to combat the cost of the Indian poverty problem. The Federal Gov. should finance much help. It was the Federal Gov. that put the reservations in each local & the laws as to belonging to reservations are Federal. These laws should be restudied & restated to encourage the Indian to get off the reservation & make a stab at another life thereby being exposed to modern high standard of living. The step up remedial programs, such as counseling agents, vocational schools, social workers, etc. can all help.

Another issue was discussed on limiting license for wild rice, fishing, logging etc. to Indians or to a degree that will help Indians. In the reservation areas.

The Indian Problem has already

been we hope Pres Johnson
draw on poverty will include Indian affairs.

A very hearty discussion was
attained as this problem. in 2 meetings.

a minority had a feeling that the Indians
are they are happy. this came from the same
anti Civil Rights portion.

The money appropriated by the
State in the last month \$20,000 will be
taken up on research & study with no direct
help to the Indians. We believe a Executive

Director who will correlate activities that help
Indians & direct the help to the spots
needed is a must. who will also work
directly with the Indian Tribes to find what
help is needed after all the Indian knows what
is best for the Indian.

Working DC or St. Paul a Committee in
get no where spent a lot of ^{tax payers} money &

MAR 2 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs the OWATONNA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS feels the amount of welfare aid is sufficient. Concerning welfare, the Indian should be treated equally with the other citizens of the state, but emphasis on welfare as a solution to the Indian problem is wrong. One third of our members felt the entire state should share the financial burden. AA small group felt there were inadequacies in the administration of the welfare program.

Regarding remedial programs the Owatonna League of Women Voters feel we are not in a position to recommend specific remedial programs. It is the consensus that emphasis should be placed on remedial and educational programs. Following this trend of thought our league recommends following the activities and recommendations of the State Commission on Indian Affairs, supporting it so long as it works toward the integrating of the Indian into society.

We support legislation which will grant sufficient funds to the State Commission on Indian Affairs for it to work effectively.

We also recommend supporting legislation which will eliminate ineffective ~~agencies~~ now working on Indian affairs.

Commissions

We recommend supporting legislation which will consolidate the various commissions and agencies dealing with the Indian problems. Consolidate not only the activities but the funds granted---feeling this will bring about action and economical use of available funds.

-#-

Was the discussion complete and thorough?

Yes, one meeting of each four units was devoted to Indian study, and one-half of a second round of unit meetings was devoted to discussion and consensus.

Do members feel strongly about this agreement? Yes.

Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session?

Only in the area of sufficient funds for the State Commission on Indian Affairs and in the consolidating or eliminating of presently established commissions who have been ineffective in dealing with the Indian problem, or do not deal with it now because of the newly formed commission on Indian affairs.

Helen Helm Russell
State Item
Owatonna League of Women Voters

MAR 6 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # _____, LWV of Red Wing feels:

(your League)

One unit definitely favored state financial participation. The other favored it in principle but questioned (over)

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of Red Wing

(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

Both units were in favor - but only for (over)

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

Two units - attendance average. Discussion has been lively - members seem to understand the problems. However, there still seems to be a lack of agreement or understanding "W.H.Y." Why the problems exist! Why they should be our responsibility!

Few members are ready to act on Indian legislation, but would not be too enthusiastic about any more general background information. Specifics - if necessary for action on legislation - would be all right.

① whether additional administrative cost under such a program would make it more costly than the present system.

They felt it would probably be better to retain the present system.

② a program beneficial to all recipients of public assistance. It would not favor any program setting the Indians apart as Indians.

To Mrs. Watson

Richfield

M E M O

TO: Local League Presidents and Indian Item Chairman

FROM: State Board

We are referring consensus reports regarding Indians back to the local Leagues for clarification. It is our responsibility to evaluate what our members are thinking on this subject. We are not questioning the value of your statements -- the specific problem is related to whether or not your League's decisions relating to health, welfare and education are meant specifically for the Indian or for welfare in general.

There was a substantial consensus return. The summary of these returns seems to indicate:

1. First of all, a strong reiteration of support arrived at last year for the Indian Commission with the request that funds and professional staff be provided to allow it to satisfy our criteria.
2. Strongest support for remedial programs (for Indians only?), with the frequent comment that while programs may be costly now, it is cheaper in the long run. Particularly emphasized were vocational training and retraining, strong support of counseling for urban living, with recurrent mention of health, education, child care, etc. *Favor laws aiding Indian in financial ventures (for example: River Road program etc.)*
3. Support for broadening the base for payment for welfare (for Indians only?) through state finance of welfare programs, and support also for the setting and enforcement of state standards. However, it was judged desirable that present local agencies distribute the funds to prevent duplication of function.
4. Some support for the abolition of residence requirements for welfare (for Indians only?) between counties or townships within the state and state reimbursement for the administrative costs of such welfare programs as those mentioned above.
5. Conflicting conclusions on the question of ADC to the chronically unemployed.
6. An underlying philosophy that legislation should not single out a special group, that if laws need change, wherever possible it should be done without reference to a particular race, religion or national origin. (This philosophy was also expressed in your reports in 1963 but was not sufficiently strong to be included in our position.)

Interest was reported to be high, discussion lively and Leagues wanted to take action.

Two Leagues felt we should make no decision without further study of the question of welfare in general.

The question we put to you is: How does policy statement number 6 above relate to the rest? What does your League think?

The Indians have been singled out & may need special help to get back on the road with the rest of us, i.e. special legislation.

Taking the above statements as they stand (deleting any reference to "Indians only") and combining them, we would come out with a statement of position such as the following:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota believes that legislation should not single out a special group. When laws are written, wherever possible, this should be done without reference to a particular race, religion or national origin.

We studied Indians. We favor welfare laws affecting Indians. Fathers are included - well & good!
We believe that the financial burden for welfare in general should be shared by the whole state in order to broaden the base for payment. We support the setting and enforcement of standards for relief by the state. *yes.*

We wish to support remedial or educational programs, particularly in the areas of vocational training and retraining, counseling for urban living and adult education programs. *yes*

Is this acceptable?

Do you mean welfare in general or welfare for Indians?

If you mean the latter, how do you reconcile it with the policy statement relating to laws regarding special groups? *? We haven't - We need more study*

Do you think our study was sufficient to reach such positions on general welfare? *No*

We are looking for agreement that is of sufficiently substantial proportions to warrant action on it.

Talk this over. Send your conclusions to State Council with your delegates. On the basis of the reporting of the Council delegates, the state Board will be able to determine the position which the members have reached.

We support an amendment to the law creating the Indian Affairs Commission that will allow the hiring of an Executive Secretary. We also support an increase of appropriation of funds, insuring efficient operation of the Commission

of general welfare.

MAR 11 1964

Indian Consensus - March, 1964

The LWV of Rochester gives unanimous support to state financial participation in local welfare programs. Most units expressed concern over lack-of the small tax base in most of the counties ^{with} large Indian population. About half the units hoped that with ~~th~~ state participation the local residence requirements could be reduced. A minority desired additional federal funds, because Indians are partly a federal responsibility.

Half the units strongly supported the new Indian Commission, and hope that more financing will become available.

A minority felt that the ~~only~~ eventual solution ~~the~~ to the Indian problem is assimilation into our society. To ~~aid in this~~, ~~Most~~ achieve this goal, most units supported broad education programs in general. Many mentioned broad adult education and vocational education. Half the units supported remedial programs, without limiting them to the Indians.

Most discussions were lively and interested. If units said nothing else, they did want action on Indian legislation!

Mrs. Robert Clements
3524 6th Pl. N.W.
Rochester, Minn

FEB 25 1964

League of Women Voters

of Roseville

SAINT PAUL 13, MINNESOTA

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Re: Indian Consensus

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs the League of Women Voters of Roseville feels that the Indian should be treated just like anybody else--since he is a citizen and entitled to the same rights as all citizens. The membership feels that if welfare programs should be expanded and liberalized for the Indians that it should probably be done also for all people regardless of their race or national origin. However, even though we may support this idea philosophically, we do not feel that this can possibly constitute a consensus since we have not studied the broad program of social welfare and reform as a League study item. There are too many unknown quantities at this time such as cost of programs, administration, recipient qualifications etc. The membership did agree that they felt a good consensus had been determined last year and felt the state board had a good area in which to work. They did not feel that it was necessary to come back and ask the membership how they felt on each sub-division of consensus agreement again.

Regarding remedial programs we support the idea of remedial programs as opposed to direct welfare aid. However it is impossible to determine on the basis of this study where remedial programs should start. There are so many factors to be considered--i.e. demand, need, cost of administration, effectiveness etc. There were as many individual suggestions as there were members participating.

League of Women Voters of Roseville

Mrs. David Gabe
Mrs. David Gabe, State CA Chairman

MAR 10 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # _____, LWV of St Anthony feels:

(your League)
They would like legislation working toward equal financial participation for the entire state, with county administration of welfare programs. ADO should be available to those needing it. The Commission should have an increased budget.

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of St Anthony
(your League)

would like the League to take the following position: encourage all aspects of education: adult, homemakers, 4-H, vocational. Also train Indian to cope with urban problems.

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

The overburdened counties should have financial help in caring for the Indian. Undoubtedly the counties with high Indian population would be more cooperative in their programs if the state helps assume the financial responsibility.

It is generally hoped the Indian Affairs Commission will become a strong and effective group that can give direction to legislation designed to benefit the Indian.

MAR 4 1964

ST. CROIX VALLEY LWV
(over)

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # _____, LWV of _____ feels:
(your League)

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of _____
(your League)
would like the League to take the following position:

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

The St. Croix Valley LNW feel that we need further study of state and county welfare laws and procedures before we can make recommendations for the state financial participation in welfare program.

The St. Croix Valley LNW recommend that we continue to support a strong State Indian Affairs Commission and if it is found an executive secretary is not the intent of the legislature, we should support legislation to hire a secretary.

Many members suggested we wait and study the recommendations of the State Indian Commission.

Several members are concerned over the possibility of lowering the blood requirement qualify as an Indian. They thought this is a step in the wrong direction.

10/Mar/64

This report is a composite of reports on the Indian study from the 9 units of the St. Louis Park League of Women Voters.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # _____, LWV of _____ feels:

(your League)

The state should assume administrative control of welfare programs and responsibility for financing welfare programs.

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of _____
(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

There was unanimous agreement in the units to favor League support of any legislation which would remedy the economic situation, esp-

WHY? (use other side) for the Indian.

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

- I. It is worth diminishing local(county) control to get a broader base for payment and establishing standards of assistance. Counties should conform to state standards on welfare aid and should be reimbursed fully with Federal and state funds.

Most units felt the residency requirement should be abolished for the Indian, although one unit felt that this would increase the dependency pattern of the Indian.

Aid to children of the chronically unemployed was favored.

Extension of library service to reach Indian reservations was favored.

One unit felt state wide programs for welfare should not be for special groups such as the Indian. They suggested subsidy for aid to the Indian as a temporary solution to his presumably temporary problems.

- II. Units favored vocational training and rehabilitation on or near the reservations, so that the Indian who chose to relocate could do so as a person trained in some skills. An opportunity for the Indian to continue with the special skills and crafts for which he is known would also be desirable.

Development of industry and work opportunity on or near the reservations was urged. Tribes should be given every opportunity to sponsor their own enterprises.

Education in all fields of health and welfare is essential to solving the Indian problem.

Funds should be increased for scholarships for Indian students. In general, there was more concern in the units toward education and training of the youth rather than in retraining of adults, i. e. if funds are limited and a choice must be made emphasis should be on the youth.

It was recommended that there be stressed better coordination of all groups working to help the Indian, especially between groups in the reservation areas and in the urban areas, so that an Indian moving into an urban area could immediately be helped as necessary.

The Indian Affairs Commission should have adequate funds provided for its work and for the hiring of needed personnel.

Post mark Mar 4 ^{Marian}

INDIAN STUDY

Consensus Report - St. Paul LWV based on reports
of 16 Units.

The 16 Units whose reports are included in this consensus report are: 2, 6, 31, 17, 27,
26, 24, 15, 29,
12, 10, 14, 19, 18,
(16&25), 34.

- I. On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, Units (see List) of LWV of St. Paul feel:

All 16 Units favored increased state financial participation in welfare programs for Indians and felt the burden of Indian welfare should be shared equally by all counties of the state. Of these, 3 Units favored 100% reimbursement by state for all welfare, but felt that might not be feasible, so would settle for Indian welfare. Two units supported increased state financial participation, but expressed concern as to how well it would work. Three units expressed concern about the means of raising the necessary revenue.

Not all units commented on the specific areas relating to welfare problems as suggested in the discussion outline, but of those that did the breakdown of their reports is as follows:

- ADC to chronically unemployed-- 8 Units favored although 3 units reported some minority opinion within unit and it was felt the father should be registered with Employment service and available for work relief projects.
- State participation in administration of welfare costs. 9 Units favored state assuming a greater share of the cost. Of these, 2 units favored 100% re-imbursement to county. 3 Units favored some re-imbursement, but some control remaining at county level. 1 Unit commented on not knowing enough to decide.
- Setting standards for Assistance-- 7 Units favored state setting standards and felt they should be equitable and uniform throughout state.
- Residency requirements---- 9 Units favored revision of the residency requirements. 4 favored flexible requirements, substituting need as the criteria. 3 favored abolishing and substituting 1 year state residency requirements with reciprocal agreements with other states. 2 favored some requirement, but shorter time. There was some confusion expressed by units which prevented coming to consensus. Some units appeared to have confused state and county residency.
- 1 Unit felt the ceilings on federal assistance programs should be removed.

- II. Regarding remedial programs, units (see list), LWV of St. Paul would like the League to take the following position:

15 of the Units reporting (11 unit didn't get to this) urged strong support for all remedial programs as the best, and in the long run cheapest and only real solution to the problems of Indians. Of these, 5 units felt vocational training & counseling and all programs for youth be given special emphasis. 2 Units proposed a domestic peace corps type program. 6 Units expressed an interest in designing programs to gain greater Federal financial aid (Joint state and federal programs). 4 Units expressed hope and support for a strong remedial program under the state Indian Commission. 2 Units mentioned programs designed to attract and co-operate with industry. 1 Unit urged program to strengthen pride in Indian's own culture.

III. League support on Legislation.

11 of the units reporting wanted the League to actively support legislation. The other units did not comment on this. No unit expressed opposition to support of legislation. Of those reporting, 2 expressed greater support for legislation in the area of remedial programs. 1 unit suggested that the League sponsor S.E. 278 -H.F. 414. 3 Units favored general laws rather than those singling out Indians, wherever possible.

The units reported that discussion was lengthy, interest and concern were great, and members were anxious to have the League do whatever it can to improve the situation of the Indians in Minnesota.

Shoreview

INDIAN STUDY

FEB 17 1964

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # ~~1111~~, LWV of Shoreview feels:
(your League)

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # ~~1111~~, LWV of Shoreview
(your League)
would like the League to take the following position:

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

Shoreview League of Women Voters Consensus:

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs, we feel: Standards of assistance should be established by the state and equal assistance given to needy in each county. Counties should be reimbursed and administrative costs allowed. Residence requirements are not beneficial to the Indian.

Regarding remedial programs:

We support remedial program of education. Vocational retraining, counseling for urban living and adult education programs are essential in solving the problem of the Minnesota Indian.

Comments: members felt they did not have enough background welfare information and experience to solve problems re: ABC, etc. Members felt we can afford to spend on education for Indians as it would eventually mean a reduction in welfare costs. Lively and productive discussions with members feeling strongly that Indian legislation is a close-to-home area. Improving the lot of the Indians would seem to fit in well with the national emphasis on the war against poverty and civil rights legislation.

MAR 2 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # _____, LWV of Silver Bay, Minnesota feels:

(your League)

The state as a whole should share the financial burden of administering welfare to Indians - reimbursing all counties - at the same rate - for these expenditures.

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of Silver Bay, Minnesota

(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

Vocational training is the only answer - teaching the Indian to earn a living is the only way to take him off the relief roll.

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

*Yes, the discussion was complete & thorough.
Yes, they feel strongly about this agreement.
The members definitely want the League
to act on Indian legislation in the next
session*

Aid to the Indian population should be standardized and adequate. Those who move away from reservations seeking jobs should not be penalized by losing their rights to this aid. Every help should be given to get these people on their feet and integrated into their new life. Children of the chronically unemployed should be fed and clothed. Local Control, if properly administered by qualified, interested personnel following a definite system set up by the state could probably do a quicker more efficient job than could a larger body.

It is our feeling that education and vocational training is a must. Every effort should be made to see that all Indian Children attend school. Funds for supplies and fees should be given if necessary.

The Federal Government should set up a program for states to follow, or atleast set standards states must live up to in order to receive help in carrying through. Quality is the key word - good, well supplied physical plants and competent teachers.

There was strong feeling in this group that unless the attitude of the white citizenry changes and more opportunity for Indians is made available, the problem would grow larger. If they need help to help themselves it's about time we faced up to our responsibility and take action.

FEB 28 1964

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # AM, LWV of West St Paul feels:

(your League)

Uniform standards for welfare throughout state - counties should be reimbursed for Indian welfare

WHY?

(use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # AM, LWV of West St Paul

(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

Would like League action in next legislative session promoting bills on remedial programs

WHY? (use other side)

Basis for improving lot of Indian
Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

State financial participation:

Where would money come from? Why should poorest counties have to support Indian welfare alone?

Comments:

*Indian problems too frustrating - vicious circle.
Why don't they integrate on their own account?
Why don't more Indians take advantage of scholarship?
What possibilities for industry*

Indian Affairs Commission - passed by 1963 legislation

Desirable because Indians have many unique problems - state govt should become more concerned & utilize more federal services.

Including citizens at large helps get people on commission who have special skills & knowledge; commitment from Indian members who bring Indian viewpoint.

Has investigative & administrative responsibility

No executive at this time administration hard to go carry out
Indians impatient at just another study group.

Can it become an action group?

Many legislators not aware of Indian problems

Need more public awareness - function of League

Commission will fail without cooperation of other agencies

legislators are not power house - 2 of 3 are freshmen

3 meetings so far (4 per year are allowed)

organized into sub-committees:

economic development

metro area

health & welfare

1 resolution sent to sec. Udall & director of Indian affairs

1 million dollars be put into fund available to Indians

presence of state depts. - see Indians as part of problems
of whole areas (lumber part of whole northern part of
state)

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # Mendota, LWV of W. St Paul feels:

(your League)

This is a state problem, the individual counties are not to blame.

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # 3, LWV of Mendota Hts.

(your League)

would like the League to take the following position: *Make use of*

existing agencies, such as the schools for adult classes in urban living, child care, health, & nutrition. Use

WHY? (use other side) *Peace Corps, and legislate only if possible & necessary!*

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

these things can't be accomplished by a more financially practical way. Legislation for vocational training program if it is one with a promise of great success. Is there something the Indians might make & sell.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

1. On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # S. George LWV of W St. Paul feels:
(your League)

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

2. Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of _____
(your League)
would like the League to take the following position:

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important **FILL IN THE WHY SECTION.** Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

1. A. The cost of such program should be shared by all counties - regardless of their Indian Population.
B. Administrative Costs should be included in the ~~sp~~ welfare outlay - as in above.
C. If Welf. costs on a "state-wide" basis - then the ~~same~~ residence requirements should be ~~should be~~ stated by the state - not individual county requirements.
d. ADC forever? forever?
E. -
F. It is necessary to accomplish the wanted results.
2. The cost, no matter how high, would be worth ~~the~~ it. Education seems to be the starting point to get the Indian to better himself, to understand his responsibilities in ~~the~~ his community, and contribute to this society.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # PM, LWV of West St. Paul feels:
(your League)

Entire State should share the welfare cost of the Indians

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # PM, LWV of West St. Paul
(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

Try Peace Corps idea to raise standard of living

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # _____, LWV of Burnsville feels:

(your League)

(over)

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of Burnsville
(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

WHY? (use other side)

(over)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

We decided at the meeting to go thru the "Capitol Letter" asking questions on each item to find out how much members knew & then enlarging as necessary

Remedial Program

(Domestic Peace Core)

V. The Burnsville League, West St. Paul, feels that the whole state should share the financial burden in welfare programs. It is the fair & just action to take and is the states responsibility.

IV. The Burnsville League, West St. Paul, feels strongly that remedial programs are of a great need.

The programs should be given consideration according to importance, then the cost would then also be determined by which program seems to be of most value.

We also felt that a Domestic Peace Core would be of value in helping the remedial programs.

FEB 25 1964

Consensus on CAL-State Indians
Based on attendance of 37 present out of 58

1. The majority believes-State should declare a responsibility of financial aid in the welfare programs of the Minnesota Indian (unanimous)
2. The majority feels that the solution as far as remedial program is concerned is one of education, both adult and child.
3. A minority of two felt the Indian is uneducable and could not benefit from any change regarding his present status.

Suggestions made.

1. Entire State should share in financial responsibility-hence broaden tax base.
2. Uniform policy.
3. Mass media information.
4. Education should emphasize also-such as Vocational Training, Agricultural Training, and Home Extension.
5. Indian should be educated etc.-be elevated to the status of average Minnesota Citizen.
6. Commission be made workable.
7. Commission carry leadership.
8. Continuity in welfare program a necessity.
9. Commission be provided with adequate funds.
10. One of three members (at large) should be a L.W.V. member

Willman

MAR 2 1954

Summary of White Bear Lake's Indian consensus

1. We do want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session.
2. We reaffirm last year's League consensus and urge efforts to strengthen the Indian Affairs Commission provide for adequate funds & authority a full time staff.
3. The state should assume a larger role in ^{establishing uniform} welfare standards throughout the state & should assume a greater financial responsibility in paying for Indian welfare.

Specific suggestions: a) uniform aid (state standards, county administration) & uniform welfare taxes throughout the state with the elimination of residence requirements
b) specific state aid for the Indian in transition to avoid the forced return to the reservation
c) state reimbursement to counties with large Indian welfare loads.
d) Becker county should not receive more aid than other counties with large Indian population.

4. The League should support legislation which would provide for vocational training, adult, health, nutritional, etc. education for Indians. (Expanding ^{the} vocational school system on or near the reservations was suggested) Help is needed & as much help as possible. Any program should be consistent & committed for a long period of time. While these programs may be costly, it is cheaper in the long run to train people to help themselves than to continue hand-outs indefinitely.

No. - A.M.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # _____, LWV of White Bear Lake, feels:

North Oaks A.M.

(your League)

That the state should participate more fully and set more standards - but realistic ones — (over)

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # _____, LWV of White Bear Lake

North Oaks A.M.

(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

Increased Remedial programs are absolutely essential to alleviating the Indian problem. (over)

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

Welfare programs.

It was agreed that the residence requirements ^{to people, Indian preferred from depressed areas} are probably a hindrance for movement to places of better opportunity; ~~by~~ there fore some adjustment should be made by the state for Minnesota residents asking for welfare relief. Careful restrictions should be made.

Generally, they felt that they did not know enough to suggest much specific action.

They felt all counties should share expense of Indian welfare.

Remedial programs:

They all agreed that this is the long term solution. They would like to see Federal aid to the schools, vocational training etc. for at least a minimum number of years.

There was agreement that they would like to see League support the Indian Affairs Commission in their request for a secretary and also aid them in carry out their program if possible.

Indian Study

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit - North Oaks P.M., L.W.V. of White Bear Lake feels:

That the state should head the welfare instead of counties and townships. They felt that the county residence requirements ~~for~~ ⁱⁿ for state citizens should be abolished. They felt "red-tape" should be cut to a minimum so as to remove duplication of efforts by welfare personnel.

Regarding remedial programs, unit North Oaks P.M., L.W.V. of White Bear Lake would like the League to take the following position:

That there should be more vocational training and retraining available in the depressed areas. That Federal, especially, and some state scholarships should be available. That there should be an extended and a realistic adult education program for health and environment improvement as well as job improvement.

As to the Indian Affairs Commission; The League should support it and its programs - The League should support the Commission's request for an Executive Secretary and also support the demand for adequate working funds.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # White Bear LWV of White Bear Lake feels:

A state aid program should be set up ^(your League) as a filler between counties,

so that Indians trying to move to cities wouldn't have to go back to Res. because of temp. lack of funds.

WHY?

(use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # White Bear LWV of White Bear Lake ^(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

the state vocational school system expanded. We would like to have for adults along lines of health, nutrition, etc. Also increase education.

WHY? (use other side)

We feel that education is the basis for helping the Indians help themselves.

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

The unit reaffirms its support in the 1963 consensus & wants the League to continue to work towards strong Indian Affairs Commission as stated in the Consensus.

We were all pretty agreed that help is needed and as much as possible. All felt that more financial aid should be given and that any aid - financial, remedial programs, should be ~~consistent~~ consistent & for a long period of time. We do want the League to act on Indian legislation in next session.

Several members said they would like to see a lot of money dumped into this program to see how much good it could do.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # B.E., LWV of White Bear Lake feels:

(your League)

The state should levy the taxes necessary, and set the standards of welfare aid, and administer aid thru the Counties.

WHY?

(use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # B.E., LWV of White Bear Lake

(your League)

2. would like the League to take the following position:

Support legislation which would provide vocational retraining, adult and health education -

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

1. The state will be able to use federal funds more extensively if state standards are enforced.

One set of standards should be in effect thru-out the state.

To equalize the aid, and to help the poorer counties, the same tax rate should prevail in all parts of the state.

~~The state~~ The state should administer the welfare aids thru the counties, supervising and enforcing standards.

Residence requirements thus will be eliminated.

Some local control will have to be sacrificed for

the good of all.

Becker Co. should not receive more aids for Indians

than other counties with large Indian pop.

Our league ^{unit} feels strongly about these points, and wants to see legislation enacted at the next session.

2. Our unit feels that even though remedial programs of vocational training and education are costly, it is cheaper in the long run to train people to help themselves, than to continue hand-outs indefinitely. These programs should help to break the cycle of hopelessness that goes with welfare, no jobs, and no training. The unit was in agreement to advocate legislation of this kind.

INDIAN STUDY

REPORT FORM

On the subject of state financial participation in welfare programs as explained above, unit # South, LWV of White Bear Lake feels:

(your League)

that, in line with our present consensus on Indians, the state as a whole should assume responsibility, and in some areas leadership, for the welfare (con't over)

WHY? (use back of this page for full explanation)

Regarding remedial programs, unit # South, LWV of White Bear Lake

(your League)

would like the League to take the following position:

Our group would want the League to support legislation which would set up educational programs for the Indians, particularly adult education programs (con't over)

WHY? (use other side)

Send your unit consensus to your local League Board which will send on to the state League the composite thinking in your whole League. (We are interested in knowing in detail the kinds of comments units make on these sheets.) Report any areas of agreement, any significant minority and most important FILL IN THE WHY SECTION. Was the discussion complete and thorough? Do the members feel strongly about this agreement? Or was it kind of casual? Do your members want the League to act on Indian legislation in the next session? This information will help us formulate a position which accurately reflects your collective opinions.

welfare, con't...

of the Indian. Financial responsibility should see the state reimburse those counties with a large Indian welfare load. Administrative costs of reimbursement should not be prohibitive as reimbursement would probably be based on a percentage of Indian welfare costs to total welfare costs of the county, and these figures should be readily obtainable.

The state should assume leadership in welfare problems that concern residence requirements and standards of assistance, so that these are standard throughout the state. The group definitely felt that residence requirements should be less than one year, and that they should be more explicit, so that, in the case of the Indian, there would be no question whether a 2-week rice-harvesting trip would interrupt residency.

There was no general agreement on ADC to the chronically unemployed. Probably the greatest feeling was against it.

education, con't...

in any worthwhile field. The group felt that education is the first need for the Indian, and that hopefully the costs of such programs would be off-set in the future by reductions in all types of welfare to the Indian.