



League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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LEGISLATIVE REPORT

REPORT OF THE 1957 SESSION OF THE MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE -- 60th SESSION

The Legislative Report of the 1957 Session of the Minnesota Legislature can be presented in two parts this year: ACT I -- VICTORY; ACT II -- DEFEAT.

ACT I - VICTORY Act I took place in the House of Representatives. There the three League-supported bills -- Constitutional Convention, Reapportionment, and Party Designation, hereinafter called The Big Three -- were passed, and we experienced an hour of triumph.

ACT II - DEFEAT Act II took place in the Senate. There, by the devices of "tying, tabling, amending, invoking," the Minnesota Senate defeated The Big Three.

A MAGIC FORMULA A year ago in our legislative forecast, we wished for a "magic formula," which when properly mixed and served to legislators would insure their support of our program measures. We must report that we still do not have all the necessary ingredients of this formula. We do report that we have several good ingredients which are gaining additional support for us each session. Government reform measures, we have all observed, do not have as wide an appeal as, for example, daylight savings time proposals; therefore, the people are slow to demand progress and change in these areas.

ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS THAT HAVE ADDED SUPPORT TO OUR PROGRAM

FACTS AND INFORMATION TO PROVE OUR CASE Last fall we gave legislators copies of our Legislative Program, The State You're In, and a sample copy of Well, What D'ya Know....Minnesota HAS a Constitution. This resource material proved that the constitution needs revision and that a convention is the most economical and efficient way to accomplish this revision. Copies were seen on the desks of many legislators during the session. Our resource chairman for reapportionment furnished factual material to both the House and Senate Reapportionment Committees and to the authors of the Reapportionment bills.

SUPPORT FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS This support was greater this session than ever before. The Republican and Democratic-Farmer-Labor Parties joined forces to work for The Big Three. They appointed a Bipartisan Committee that worked with the authors to plan strategy, and the leaders testified before committee hearings on behalf of these bills.

A state-wide Minnesota Citizens Constitutional Committee had been formed in 1955, to carry on educational work in all Congressional Districts of the state. The chairman, Mr. Donald Holmes, gave excellent testimony before the House and Senate Committee hearings.

Other citizens who testified were Mr. William Pearson of the State Grange, Professor William Anderson of the University of Minnesota political science department, Mr. George Lawson, University regent, and others.

SUPPORT FROM PRESS

The Twin City press and numerous out-state newspapers editorialized in favor of The Big Three. Through the episode of Patricia's Essay many people heard about a constitutional convention for the first time. Many letters to the editor on these subjects were printed on editorial pages. Several representatives and senators engaged in a running debate in the news columns with interested citizens and League members.

SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR

The Governor asked for passage of all three measures in his message to the Legislature.

ACTIVITIES OF OUR LOCAL LEAGUES

The number of woman hours spent on building public opinion for a constitutional convention were many. The Do It Yourself Projects of the Public Relations Committee were carried out all over the state of Minnesota.

The State Publications Committee spearheaded the distribution of 17,500 copies of Well, What D'ya Know....Minnesota HAS a Constitution.

The local Leagues carried on lobbying by letter writing, letters to editors, interviews, and personal visits with their own legislators.

Legislative Day on February 20th was a great success. Forty-five Leagues sent representatives. The main authors of our bills were speakers and they suggested techniques and strategy for passage of the bills.

We did not schedule individual tours for Leagues this year. Many Leagues arranged their own tours. From the reports that we have received you like the opportunity to "free lance" and visit with your own legislators at will.

VICTORY IN THE HOUSE

All of this activity throughout the last two years led us to victory in the House of Representatives. The House passed the Constitutional Convention Bill, the Bergerud Reapportionment Bill and the Party Designation Bill.

DEFEAT IN THE SENATE

The 1957 Senate has been called an "independent senate." This is very true. It seemed to us who attended committee hearings that the senators had already made up their minds that they would not accept these governmental reform measures for their body.

As for a constitutional convention, the Senators preferred the 1857 amended document and assumed the role of protecting the people from themselves. They thought that the people would not know what they wanted in a new constitution.

As for reapportionment, the Senators chose to disturb the people (by retaining the 1910 basis of representation in the Legislature) rather than to disturb a single Senator (by changing his district lines).

As for party designation, the Senators preferred to continue as "independents" (as they have functioned since 1913) rather than to become open members of a political party, and therefore responsible to a party platform.

Their offering to the League of Women Voters and other Convention advocates was a few constitutional amendments. These amendments were prepared by a sub-committee of the Judiciary Committee.

The following amendments were passed both in the Senate and the House and will appear on the ballot:

1. The home rule amendment
2. Four-year term for governor and other constitutional officers
3. Amendment to allow legislators to run for other state offices

The following amendments were lost in the last minute shuffle of amending and concurring:

1. Length of session amendment
2. Dead-wood amendment
3. Several reapportionment measures were considered by the House and Senate but they did not agree on one to submit to the people.

Obviously the length of session does not allow time for careful consideration of constitutional amendments.

CONCLUSION

Our "magic formula" for success for the next session:

1. Increased quantities of these ingredients:

Facts and information to prove our case
Support from other organizations and individuals
Support from the press
Support of the governor
Activities of our local Leagues

2. New ingredient:

45 SENATORS who support
Constitutional Convention

34 SENATORS who support
Reapportionment
Party Designation for Legislators

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION ITEM

Legislative Report - 1957

BACKGROUND

The 1957 legislative session is the fifth at which the League has supported a bill for an act to submit to the people the calling of a constitutional convention. A study of constitutional revision became a part of the League program in 1947, the same spring that the Legislature created the Constitutional Commission of Minnesota.

The legislative voting record of those years is worth reviewing.

1949 House	8 short of passage
1951 House	35 short of passage
1953 House	10 short of passage
1955 Senate	18 short of passage

For passage in the Senate 45 votes are required; in the House 88. Clearly 2/3 is a formidable majority.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

These were more varied and more numerous than previously and, with two exceptions, the legislators received them all at appropriate intervals, beginning in the pre-election period: the compilation of our source material The State You're In, the popular booklet Well, What d'ya Know, Minnesota Has a Constitution, the Lobby-by-Letter constitutional convention insert, The Four F's of Constitutional Revision, a reprint of the Voter. Through the Publications and Public Relations committees an intensive distribution campaign was carried on, by which all of the newspapers in Minnesota, many state-wide organizations, and the Minnesota Citizens Constitutional Committee received our publications.

SECURING AUTHORS

The Governor gave administration support to a constitutional convention in his January message to the Legislature. We solicited authors carefully, with consideration for both rural and urban representation, influence in the Legislature, time and interest to work for passage of the bill.

House authors were: Joe Karth (L, 41), introducing author, A. I. Johnson (L, 25), speaker of the House, Clarence Langley (C, 19), Sally Luther (L, 30), Roger Noreen (C, 57).

Senate authors were: Stanley Holmquist (C, 26), introducing author, E. L. Andersen (C42), Harold Schultz (L, 37).

PLANNING STRATEGY

On January 22 the state legislative chairman, lobby chairman for constitutional convention and constitutional revision chairman met with those authors who could be present (Holmquist, Karth, Langley, Luther and Noreen). We discussed aspects of the constitutional convention issue to be presented at the hearings and from whom they would be most effective.

It was agreed:

1. That men should predominate among those appearing, because it has been inferred in the past that only women were interested in a constitution convention.

2. That the speakers should be as broadly representative as possible.

3. That the points covered at the hearings should include:

a. Efficiency in the operation of government and preservation of the federal system with emphasis on the waning authority of the states.

b. The role of the citizen as constitution-maker and his right to vote on the issue of a convention for which provision was made in the constitution a hundred years ago.

c. The representative character of a convention under Minnesota's method of electing delegates.

d. Major handicaps of our Constitution to the Executive and the Legislature. This aspect was to be handled by the authors, who as law-makers were experienced in working under constitutional provisions.

e. Cost, complication and amount of litigation and statutory revision following a convention.

f. Cost and efficiency of a convention versus amendments.

4. That bills should be introduced the same day in the House and Senate, but that final action should come first in the House, where we expected a favorable vote. This we hoped would be a spur to the Senate.

In our planning we took into consideration that, although the membership of the Senate was the same which had defeated a convention bill in 1955, Senators would be up for re-election in 1958 and, therefore, inclined to listen more attentively to expressions from constituents. These, we thought, would be more frequent because of increased public education by the League, the formation of the Minnesota Citizens Constitutional Committee with advisors in all of the legislative districts, and the impressive cooperation of the two political parties in the Bipartisan Committee, supporting constitutional convention, reapportionment and party designation for legislators. Because the House was controlled by Liberals and the Senate by Conservatives, the 1957 session seemed to provide an opportunity for both groups to share credit for the passage of legislation for basic governmental reform. Thus we began the session hopefully.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Senate File 135 was introduced January 23 and referred to the Judiciary Committee, whose members were:

Welch, Chm. C, 27
Dunlap C, 3
Erickson C, 9
Feidt C, 34
Fraser L, 29
Gillen C, 20
Hanson R. C, 6

Kalina L, 28
Masek C, 39
Miller C, 36
Mitchell C, 55
Mullin C, 35
Nelson, C, 16

O'Loughlin C, 40
Root C, 33
Rosenmeier C, 53
Schultz L, 37
Wefald C, 49
Wright C, 30

House File 289 was introduced January 24 and referred to the General Legislation Committee, whose members were:

Hagland, Chm. L, 31
Kelly, J.J. L, 13
Alderink C, 55

Fitzsimons C, 67
Iverson L, 48
Karth L, 41

Murk L, 29
Skeate L, 29
Thompson H. C, 51

General Legislation Committee (cont.)

Bergerud C, 36
Enesvedt L, 23
Ernst C, 22

Klaus C, 20
Kording L, 32
Lovik C, 63

Thompson T. C, 1
Tomczyk L, 28
Wee L, 12
Windmiller C, 50

HOUSE ACTION

The first hearing was held February 18 at 8:30 a.m. for proponents of the bill. Mr. Karth presented the bill to the Committee and introduced those who wanted to speak in its favor: Professor William Anderson of the University of Minnesota political science department and a member of President Eisenhower's Committee on Intergovernmental Relations; William Pearson, Master of the Minnesota Grange, the oldest farm organization in the United States; Mr. William Carlson, speaking for the Bipartisan Committee of the Democratic-Farmer-Labor and Republican parties; Mrs. Malcolm Hargraves, League of Women Voters; Mr. Donald Holmes, Chairman of the Minnesota Citizens Constitutional Committee; Mrs. Ellis Peilen, Council of Jewish Women; Mr. George Lawson, University Regent and once active in the A.F.L.; Mrs. G. J. Kilborn, Hennepin County Republican Workshop; Mr. Stanley Platt, an interested citizen; Representatives A. I. Johnson, Sally Luther and Roger Noreen, all authors. It seemed to those who have attended hearings on this bill in recent sessions that the testimony was the most effective that has been presented--well organized and with a minimum of repetition. Both Professor Anderson and Mr. Lawson were venerable and authoritative in their individual ways. Professor Anderson caught everyone's imagination with the anecdote about his and President Folwell's (at age 90) desire to rewrite Minnesota's Constitution. "But", he said "President Folwell died and I decided it wasn't a one-man job." Mr. Holmes spoke convincingly of his experience in revising codes, as a member of the Minnesota Bar Association's committees, by making the point that a new constitution need not increase and may decrease litigation because it brings about the modernization of statutes.

The second hearing was for opponents on February 25 at 8:30 a.m. but Mr. Orville Peterson was allowed first to make a statement that the Minnesota League of Municipalities supports H.F. 289. The opponents were: Mr. Otto F. Christenson, Executive Vice-President of the Minnesota Employer's Association and Mr. Mike Galvin, attorney for the railroads. Mr. Galvin said he was speaking as an individual. Mr. Christenson distributed a booklet, "Yes, Minnesota Has a Constitution and It Is a Great Constitution", which was a reply to the League's Well, What d'ya Know, Minnesota Has a Constitution, which he described as a "snippy booklet, "defamatory" and "disturbing" to our school children. He talked for more than an hour, contending that amendments are cheap and safe and that only selfish pressure groups want a convention. His implication was that a desire for a constitutional convention is disloyal to the state. Such uncertainty would be generated by the first step (passage of this bill) toward a convention that he said he would be unable to recommend to inquiring business and industry that they locate in Minnesota. Mr. Galvin spoke briefly (for him)--about a quarter of an hour. It had obviously been decided that the Minnesota Employer's Association rather than the railroads, as formerly, would bear the burden of opposition. Mr. Galvin stated that a constitutional convention is the supreme authority and responsible to no one. The League of Women Voters were sincere women, he admitted, but mistaken, he implied, and whenever he talked to a group of them there were always several who spoke to him later, so happy to have the facts at last. We observed during the proponent's testimony that Mr. Gordon Forbes, once a member of the Legislature and a supporter of a convention and now Mr. Galvin's assistant, was taking notes and gathering facts where they fell.

Public relations activity during the period of house hearings. There were letters from individuals to their legislators, to members of the General Legislation Committee, to the authors and to newspapers. There was a Minnesota Editorial Association release signed by the League, the Bipartisan Committee and others who testified, warning people not to allow the main issue to be obscured: their right to decide whether they want a convention to revise the Constitution. Also, a letter to the Minnesota Employer's Association signed jointly by these supporters and accompanied by a stamped addressed post-card asking whether they opposed the submission of the question of a convention to a vote of the people. State organizations favorable to a constitutional convention were alerted that now was the time to express themselves.

Author's rebuttal March 4th. The League Committee prepared a fact sheet in answer to opponents for Mr. Karth's use, if he wished. Mr. Karth began by apologizing to the League for the tenor of Mr. Christenson's remarks in relation to them. Mr. Karth's main point was that the bill should be passed out of Committee so that the whole House would be allowed to debate its merits. Mr. Langley said that he had "both a doubt and a conviction" about the question of a constitutional convention. He doubted that our Constitution is such an inviolate document that it cannot be improved and a conviction that we can do as good a job in 1957 and probably better than was done in 1857. The only real Committee opposition came from Carl Iverson.

House Committee vote. Voting yes were: Hagland, Kelly, Bergerud, Ernst, Karth, Klaus, Kording, Murk, Skeate, Tomczyk and Wee. Voting no were: Alderink, Enestvedt, Fitzsimmons, Iverson, T. Thompson and Windmiller. Passing the vote were: Lovik and H. Thompson.

Floor debate. Mr. Karth handled floor consideration of H.F. 289 skillfully. He did not allow it to come up on a Monday or Friday when members might be away for the weekend, because he could not risk having one of the necessary 88 votes absent. The bill was debated in Committee-of-the-Whole March 19th. When Mr. Karth rose to give his arguments many of the representatives opposed to the bill walked out, which seemed to indicate that they knew how they were going to vote. Mr. Karth's debate was well organized and presented. His emphasis was on the right of the people to frame their basic law. Chief opposition came from Duxbury, French, Iverson and Jensen. In final argument Mr. Karth said that a new constitution was not a matter of the present one working "evil" (a question coming from Mr. Christenson) or individual hardship, but of economy and efficiency in government. If it is necessary to revise our laws every two years, once in a hundred years is not too often to revise the constitution. The vote in the Committee-of-the-Whole was 60 yeas and 36 nays.

The bill passes the House. The next day, March 20, 1957, for the first time in the history of the state, the constitutional convention bill passed the House by a vote 89 to 38, one more than needed to make the 2/3 majority. Following passage, Cina moved to nail the vote down irrevocably by calling up a House rule which says a member of the prevailing side may move for reconsideration within 3 days. Cina moved at once to reconsider. His motion was defeated by voice vote so the bill was in the clear in the House. Banner headlines appeared on the front pages of newspapers. The League of Women Voters sat back on its laurels for one day of triumph.

SENATE ACTION

As the session advanced and a day had not yet been set for a hearing in Judiciary Committee, we began to make uneasy inquiries. Senator Welch said that he did not have the bill. It was found in a subcommittee of the Judiciary whose chairman was Senator Rosenmeier, once a supporter, now an opponent of a convention. Senator E. L. Andersen went to him and requested that S. F. 135 be sent to the Judiciary Committee.

First hearing was held March 14th, at 8:00 a.m. Both proponents and opponents were heard. Speaking for the bill were: Senator Holmquist, chief author; Professor William Anderson; Mr. Donald Holmes; John Mooty, Bipartisan Committee member; Stanley Platt; Mrs. Malcolm Hargraves; Mrs. Ellis Peilen; Mrs. Stanley Peterson, Republican Workshop; and Mrs. William Carlson. Opponents were: Mr. Otto Christenson; Mr. Mike Galvin; Mrs. Arthur Kistler, Ramsey County Republican Club chairwoman; Mrs. Lee Runyon, public relations chairman for the First Minnesota Council of "We the People". Mr. Christenson used the major portion of the time allowed for the opposing speakers and introduced them. It was interesting to us that for the first time the opponents had solicited women for their ranks to give the appearance of broader support and to counterbalance the effect of League and the political parties. Both women made a great deal in their testimonies about being former League members.

Many of the points made before the House Committee were reiterated. The proponents emphasized the competence and the right of the citizen to decide the issues fundamental to representative government. The opponents stressed the dangers of submitting to the people an entire document, a "package deal" and named groups with special interests who would be delegates to a convention. The list was so inclusive that it seemed to us a good cross-section of the citizens of Minnesota. It was appropriate, we thought, that the people who were most apprehensive about the power of special interests were themselves the paid representatives of special interests. Senator Fraser asked a significant question after the proponents, all individual citizens or representatives of volunteer organizations, had spoken. Were any of them, he wanted to know, paid lobbyists? Of course, none were.

The testimony in the Senate, although presented for the most part by the same people, was less effective than in the House, because the Committee seemed impervious. Senator Root asked questions of Professor Anderson which were obviously not for information. Several members of the Committee, who were opposed to the bill, did not come in until the supporting testimony had been completed. During the hearing there were members who seemed to be conducting other business among themselves. Senator Welch presided with fairness to both sides, watching the time and trying to give an opportunity to all who wanted to be heard.

Senate Committee votes. March 26th. Committee members who spoke longest in opposition were Wright, Root, Wefald and Welch. A major agreement among them, and a bitter piece of irony for the League, was that amendments are now easy to pass and the risks of a convention need not be taken in order to achieve constitutional changes. Senator Fraser said in contradiction that a body cannot reform itself; more time and more disinterest than the Legislature has are needed. There were two votes taken. One on a motion to indefinitely postpone the bill.

For postponement: Dunlap, Erickson, Feidt, Masek, Root, Rosenmeier, Wefald, Welch, Wright -- 9

Against: Fraser, Gillen, R. Hanson, Kalina, Mitchell, Nelson, Nycklemoe, O'Loughlin, Schultz -- 9

On a motion to recommend passage, the vote was exactly the same with the yeas and nays reversed. So the bill was neither dead nor alive, but just lying there like an unrisen dumpling.

Two men on whose affirmative votes the League had counted were absent when the vote was taken. Senator Archie Miller had committed himself to his constituents to vote for a convention, but he had not attended Judiciary Committee meetings during the early part of the session because of illness and felt he could not do so later on behalf of one issue. Senator Gerald Mullin had been identified with support of a constitutional convention as a member of the Constitutional Commission and author of convention bills in past legislatures. His reply to our request to try to bring the bill to another vote was that he was no longer so interested in a convention, because all of the amendments had passed at the last two elections. When we asked if he knew whose work had brought that about, he did.

Now began the final struggle. The main argument was: the Constitution provides that the question of a convention shall be submitted to the people when 2/3 of both Houses deem it necessary; nine members of the Judiciary Committee had prevented the full Senate from expressing itself. There were letters to the editor, editorials, news stories based on statements by the League President and the Bipartisan Committee on misuse of the committee system, radio and television, mail to the Judiciary Committee from within and without their constituencies. Both Senator Fraser and Senator Nycklemoe made attempts to get further consideration of the bill. Senator Holmquist appeared several times to request the Committee to pass the bill out so that it could be debated on the floor, but no action was taken. Those doing most of the arguing against consideration were: Feidt, Dunlap, Root, Rosenmeier and Wright. Senator Welch had appointed a subcommittee to consider all amendments, with Rosenmeier presiding. This excuse was used: until the amendments had come before the Committee nothing further should be done with the convention bill. Four amendments did pass out of the Committee with recommendations, including some of the changes which the League wants in the Constitution; thus the strategy used was well planned. As the session waned, tensions mounted. It was apparent, even to those who had believe that this must be the year for success, that the cause was lost.

HOW WE LOBBIED FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

The plan was to work through the local Leagues, emphasis being on the constituent's relation to his legislator.

There was a small legislative committee, composed of a chairman and one person in each program field, which watched the progress of bills, attended hearings, interviewed influential legislators and those from non-League districts. The Legislative Chairman kept local Leagues informed and coordinated the activities of resource and public relations people and the lobbyists. This proved to be an effective and unobtrusive way to observe and to lobby.

We believe that the lobbying by local Leagues and our Legislative Committee was the deciding factor in the convention bill's passage in the House. For example, Lovik from Park Rapids showed uncertainty about his vote: he passed in committee, but voted "yes" on the floor and we think that the Park Rapids League had much to do with this. Mr. Ernst voted "yes" in committee and on the floor and the Hutchinson League was probably influential. Mr. Enestvedt's change from "no" in committee to "yes" on the floor may be credited to our St. Louis Park lobbyist and the Olivia League. Mr. Newhouse voted "no" on the House floor on the 19th and "yes" on the 20th and we think our telephone call to Alexandria may have produced this result. In several cases the representative said he voted for the bill because the Leagues in his area wanted him to, or "I told them I would", or "you ladies have worked so hard", or "I guess the people should have a chance to vote".

Members of the Public Relations Committee attended all legislative committee meetings important to the constitutional convention bill, handled all newspaper, radio and television publicity. They seemed to have inexhaustible energy, ingenuity and persistence in keeping the public aware of the issue and the legislators aware of the public. The Publications Committee had sparked a tremendous campaign for distribution of Well, What d'ya Know...

SUMMARY

The session demonstrated:

1. Disregard of representative government in these ways:

Distrust of the electorate by expressions that people do not know enough to vote on so complicated an issue as a constitution, that they lack the judgment to elect delegates to a convention; that the delegates elected would lack the intelligence and integrity to resist pressure groups and act for the state as a whole.

Assumption of increasing authority by the legislature, because of this distrust, in order to protect the people from themselves. Example: refusing to let them vote on whether they want a convention to revise the constitution; failing to reapportion so that votes count equitably in electing representatives.

2. That the influence of a single special interest can outweigh that of many broadly-based citizens' groups.

3. That the committee system frequently does not fulfill its purpose of expediting legislation. The committee becomes a place where legislation which influential men do not want to see the light of day can be buried. In the case of the constitutional convention issue, the Senate Committee hearing did not prove to be a means of informing, persuading, compromising, but a place where opponents stood unreconciled. Our impression of the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee was that their minds were made up before the hearings were held.

Reasons for defeat:

1. Fear--both of the unknown and of the people. Effective leaders, particularly in the Senate, used the argument that what we now have is known, but what we would get from a convention is unknown.
 - . Many legislators seemed to fear the people and the democratic process. Democracy implies a trust in the people, and when our leaders lose that trust, democracy suffers. As Abraham Lincoln said in a speech delivered October 16, 1854, "No man is good enough to govern another man without that other's consent".
2. The great influence of certain members of the Senate in particular. Quoting from Mrs. Norgaard's 1955 legislative report: "And one cannot discount the influence of lawyer-legislators who sit as the people's representatives and yet, because of their means of livelihood, represent the people only in part." How much the League can do in this area is something which will have to be discussed by State Board and members together in the future.

3. The success in passing amendments during the 1954 and 1956 elections made a good talking point for the opponents of convention, who wanted "the safe and sure method." The successful passage of amendments--a strong point in our defeat this session--was ironically, largely due to the League. Our attitude toward support of amendments should be discussed thoroughly at convention.
4. In spite of the wonderful public relations job which the League of Women Voters carried on for two years in selling Constitutional Convention to the citizens of Minnesota, there is still apathy on the part of many citizens. Defeat of the bill can certainly be attributed in great measure to this unconcern and lack of knowledge.

Our continuing conviction is that there is nothing wrong that the voter cannot change, if he knows enough to care enough to do something. To see that he does is the responsibility of the League of Women Voters.

REAPPORTIONMENT

Legislative Report - 1957

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

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

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

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

CHANGE IN REAPPORTIONMENT PICTURE BETWEEN 1955 and 1957

SURGE OF INTEREST

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

THEY ASK US FOR HELP

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

SUPPORT FROM OTHERS

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

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

LAWSUIT

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

AUTHORS

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

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

REAPPORTIONMENT IN HOUSE COMMITTEE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

* # 409 - Iverson-Jensen bill

REAPPORTIONMENT IN SENATE COMMITTEE

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

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

POWER MOVES

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

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

WHERE THE LEAGUE FAILED IN 1957

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

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

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

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

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

WHAT THE LEAGUE ACCOMPLISHED IN 1957

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

JENSEN-IVERSON AMENDMENT
(H.F. 409)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Not LWV supported because introduced too late for study.

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

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

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

O'LAUGHLIN AMENDMENT
(S.F. 182)

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

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

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

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

PARTY DESIGNATION FOR LEGISLATORS

1957 Legislative Report

BACKGROUND

A bill calling for Party Designation for Legislators was put on the state current agenda in 1951. Legislative action was:

- 1953 - House passed the bill 88 - 36; Senate did not vote;
- 1955 - House defeated the bill 68 - 62; Senate did not vote;
- 1957 - House passed the bill 95 - 32; Senate defeated 41 - 24 a motion to call the bill to the floor for a vote.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

House File 41. Introduced January 16. Authors: Karl Grittner; (L,39), A.F.Oberg (C,56); John Hartle (C,16); Joe Karth (L,41) ; Burnett Bergeson (L,64). The House Bill was referred to the Elections Committee made up of:

Grittner, Chm. L,39
Fudro, V.Chm. L,28
Bergeson L,64
Christie C,30
Dunn C,50

Fitzgerald L,21
Fuller C,12
Grussing C,24
Jensen C,14
Karth L,41

Klaus C,20
Knudsen L,25
Langley C,19
Luther L,30
Yetka L,54

Senate File 705. Introduced February 14. Authors were: Albert Quie (C,18); Stanley Holmquist (C,26); Donald Fraser (L,29). The Senate Bill was referred to the Senate Elections and Reapportionment Committee, made up of the following:

Erickson, Chm. C,9
Anderson, A.A. C,11
Anderson, M.H. L,32
Behmler C,48
Burdick C,4
Garr L,59

Feidt C,34
Holand C,5
Johnson, R. L,44
Keller C,2
Kroehler C,15
Mitchell C,55

O'Laughlin C,40
Peterson L,60
Root C,33
Rosenmeier C,53
Sinclair C,67

HOUSE ACTION

The Party Designation bill started out with the advantage of having its introducing author also the chairman of the Elections Committee. This accounted for the fast and efficient movement of the bill through the House. For several sessions the bill has been defeated by an amendment to include county officials. This session the authors were foresighted and took the necessary steps to prevent this happening again. Representatives Grittner and Karth introduced a separate bill for party designation for county officials. To quote from the House Rules: "45c. No bill or resolution shall at any time be amended by annexing thereto or incorporating therein any other bill or resolution pending before the House." This prevented the crippling amendment in the House.

FIRST COMMITTEE HEARING

The first committee hearing was held on Thursday, January 31. Mrs. Albert Richter, speaking for the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, said that party labels for legislators, in the League's opinion "are the best way to promote responsible government." William E. Carlson, St. Paul, DFL member of the Bipartisan Committee, spoke for that group.

SECOND COMMITTEE HEARING

The second committee hearing was on February 7. Five members of the Bipartisan Committee were present and Mr. P. K. Peterson testified for them. He said that if partisanship applies to state offices it should apply to legislators even more. Somebody has to carry

the ball to carry out the expressed desire of representative government and this should be done by the parties. Representative Carl Iverson spoke against the bill, saying that it would destroy the foundations of democracy and the people should carry the responsibility, not the parties. Mrs. Eugene Gould spoke for Hennepin County Republican Workshop. The room was filled with interested spectators. The bill was passed out of committee by voice vote, with only two members voting "no!"

HOUSE FLOOR

House floor action started a week later on February 14th. Representatives Oberg, Hartle, Murk, Searle, Jerry Kelly, Cina and Dunn spoke for passage. Representative Iverson led the opposition in a three-hour-long debate. He accused the Elections Committee Chairman of trickery in introducing a separate county official bill. He said the device was used to "ham-string, gag and shackle" legislators from voting their convictions. The opponents made several attempts to amend the bill. Iverson's motion to send the bill back to the Elections Committee was defeated by a standing vote of 41-68. His next motion to put a third "non-partisan" party on the ballot was also defeated. Representative Duxbury offered the next amendment, to add county officials to H.F.41. Cina ruled the amendment out of order because of the House rule previously mentioned. The fourth amendment, offered by Representative George French of Minneapolis, would entitle a legislator, or a person of his choice, to a seat on the county committee of his political party. This amendment was accepted by a voice vote. The House then voted preliminary approval of the bill 103-22.

House Floor action continued on February 15. Introducing author Grittner explained the bill briefly and agreed that the French amendment would make the bill much more acceptable.

Speaking against the bill were Representatives Halsted, Nordin, G. W. Swenson, Enestvedt and Carl Iverson. They stressed the facts that democracy would suffer by undue influence and interference of party bosses. Enestvedt said that the legislators should represent the constituent on the basis of issues instead of party.

Representative Iverson made a final impassioned plea to the House to defeat the bill. He said that some voting for the bill are prostituting their conscience because they are subservient to invisible government. He said, "Let us not listen to the voice of the Siren, but to our own conscience and the voice of the people." Mr. Iverson had carried the brunt of the opposition for several sessions. His voice quieted down at the end of the debate. It seemed that this time he knew he had lost. When the final vote was taken, there were 95 yeas and 32 nays.

SENATE ACTION

SENATE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

House File 41 went to the Senate Elections Committee on Feb. 15. The committee chairman was known to be unfavorable toward the bill. He did not call a hearing on it until April 8. The end of the session was then only two weeks away. The authors spoke for the bill first. Senator Holmquist gave these reasons for offering the bill:

1. Party Designation strengthens the parties and it is essential to have a strong party system in a democracy.
2. Party Designation contributes to greater interest in writing the party platforms. Legislators in particular would have a greater interest in drawing up these platforms.
3. The people want party designation because it is in effect being practised now.

Senator Quie said the people could make themselves heard through their party. Senator Fraser pointed out that 46 states elect legislators by party designation --- and these states still maintain their independence. He feels party designation would lessen the individual pressure on legislators. Mr. William Carlson, Mr. John Mooty and Mrs. Marge Maki spoke for the Bipartisan Committee. Mr. Carlson asked that the Committee report the bill out because they have a responsibility to let the people know how their senators voted on the bill. Mr. Mooty suggested that party designation would permit the parties to form a clear-cut program before the legislature starts.

Senators A. A. Anderson, Sinclair, Rosenmeier, Feidt, and O'Loughlin spoke against the bill. Senator Feidt read a twenty-minute prepared statement to prove that the present system is more beneficial to the people of Minnesota. His statement was reprinted in the Minneapolis paper and repeated during Senate debate. He recalled the political corruption in the past; praised the number of officials in Minnesota elected on a non-partisan ballot and the independence of the Minnesota voter; he declared the legislature should not be a tool in building political parties by increasing the number of office holders tied to a party and certain to do the party's bidding.

On April 15th the Senate Elections Committee was overflowing with interested spectators. Several top party people were there. Senator O'Loughlin moved to amend the bill to include county officials, all city officials in cities of the first class and certain cities of the second class. The Committee voted to adopt the amendment by a vote of 8-4. Then by a 9-4 vote they voted to lay the bill over.

For laying over -- A. A. Anderson, Behmler, Feidt, Holand, Keller, Kroehler, O'Loughlin, Rosenmeier, and Sinclair.

Against laying over -- M. H. Anderson, R. Johnson, Peterson and Root

Absent -- Burdick, Carr and Mitchell

SENATE FLOOR

ACTION

Shortly after the committee had adjourned the Senate met.

There Senator Harold Kalina, Minneapolis liberal, invoked

Rule 71 under which any bill that has been in committee 25

days without receiving action can be called up for floor debate by a majority of the senators. He noted the Senate File # 705 had been in committee since Feb. 14.

Senators Quie, Holmquist and Fraser spoke for the motion. Senator Holmquist argued that the committee, in voting to lay the bill over, had not taken action on it. He felt it should be voted "up or down!" Senator Quie said he would have been willing to stand by the decision of the committee but the committee action of "laying over" was not action on the bill.

Senator Erickson defended the action of his committee and asked that their decision be upheld on the floor. Senator Rosenmeier, in speaking against the motion, said that the motion was contrary to the tradition and orderly procedure of this body. He said that an attempt to bring back a Senate File on which nothing could be done was an attempt to criticize the committee by overriding its decision. Furthermore it was an attempt to attack the integrity and validity of this body.

Senator Wiseth spoke for the motion and said the time had come to be recorded on party designation. Senator Nycklemoe, a liberal from an overwhelmingly Republican area, said even though the bill would mean defeat for him, he felt impelled to testify to its merits.

Senator Erickson spoke again in defense of his committee's decision. He added that several House members who voted for party designation said they hoped the Senate would kill the bill. Senator Welch said this motion is a forerunner of similar motions to put the Senate in an embarrassing position. "I call upon you to protect yourselves and the procedures of the legislature and to honor the chairman of the committee."

A rollcall was then taken. The motion to call S.F.705 to the floor for a vote was defeated 41 nays and 24 ayes.

SUMMARY OF ACTION Party Designation passed the House with the surprisingly large margin of 95 for and 32 against. Care was taken by the bill's authors to prevent amendments which could have resulted in its defeat.

An unfriendly Senate Elections Committee refused to pass the Party Designation Bill out of committee.

A Senator on the floor of the Senate invoked a Senate rule to get the bill out of committee, but Senators defeated his motion to bring the bill to floor debate by a vote of 41 -- 24.

Both Senate and House bills had bipartisan authorship. The Senate liberals were successful in getting every one of their members present to vote for the bill. Of 48 Senate conservatives only seven supported the motion to call the bill to the floor for a vote.

FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES COMMISSION

1957 Legislative Report

1955 BILL

A strong and enforceable Fair Employment Practices law was passed by the 1955 session of the Legislature. The Governor appointed a Commission and Review Board shortly thereafter. The Legislature charged the nine members of the Commission with the responsibility of "fostering the employment of all individuals, regardless of their race, color, creed or national origin."

Thus far the Commission in cooperation with the Governor's Human Rights Commission has organized 12 advisory committees throughout the state. These committees are serving as valuable instruments for gaining the cooperation of people in every phase of life with the principle of equality of opportunity for all citizens.

Twenty nine complaints have been received by the commission. All complaints were settled with the exception of one which is being heard before a review board and its findings will not be known until June.

APPROPRIATION

At the present time the Commission has been operating on \$30,000 a year. The Commission itself requested \$46,000 a year to set up more advisory committees, add two additional staff members and purchase office equipment. The Governor requested an increase to \$34,000 for the first year and \$35,000 for the second. The final appropriation was \$31,000 for the first year, and \$32,000 for the second year.

INTERIM COMMITTEE

An interim committee has been set up by the legislature to study discrimination in housing, the FEPC and its relationship to the Governor's Human Rights Commission. Ten thousand dollars was appropriated for this committee and findings will be reported back in the next legislative session.

CIVIL SERVICE

1957 Legislative Report

The League of Women Voters took no action on Civil Service Bills this session. No veterans preference bills were introduced and no policy changes were suggested in the Civil Service System.

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

Legislative Bulletin #7
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LEGISLATIVE BOXSCORE - ROLL CALL

1957 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

	CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION	REAPPORTIONMENT BERGERUD BILL	PARTY DESIGNATION
HOUSE	<u>Committee</u> Passed - 11 yes, 6 no	<u>Committee</u> Passed - 10 yes, 7 no	<u>Committee</u> Passed - Voice Vote, 2 no
	<u>Floor</u> Passed - 89 yes, 38 no	<u>Floor</u> Passed - 68 yes, 61 no	<u>Floor</u> Passed, 95 yes, 32 no
SENATE	<u>Committee</u> Failed - 9 to 9 tie	<u>Committee</u> Passed - Voice vote Amended to restore almost completely the status quo in the Senate. To take effect only on passage of a constitutional amendment.	<u>Committee</u> Failed - Motion was to table, 9-4
	<u>Floor</u> No vote taken	<u>Floor</u> Passed - 47 yes, 17 no	<u>Floor</u> Failed - 41 no, 24 yes Motion was to call bill to the floor for a roll call vote. Supporters voted yes on the motion.
HOUSE		<u>Floor</u> Failed - 68 yes, 59 no Motion was to lay bill on table. Supporters voted no on motion, opponents voted yes.	

CONSTITUTIONAL

AMENDMENTS

1. Home Rule - extension of Home Rule privileges to counties and municipalities.
2. Four Year Term for governor and other constitutional offices.
3. Allows legislators to run for other state offices.

SENATE VOTES

Votes were not taken in the Senate on Constitutional Convention this 1957 Session. Therefore we are including for your information the Senate vote on this matter in the 1955 Session (C.C. 1955). You may want to check with your Senator and see if he has changed his position and now supports the bill. Supporters voted yes on this bill.

Votes taken on the Bergerud Reapportionment bill (H.F. 450) were on the version as amended by the Senate Elections & Reapportionment Committee. Supporters voted yes.

Votes taken on the Party Designation bill (S.F. 705) were on a motion to call the bill to the floor for a vote. Supporters voted yes on the bill.

			Reap. P.D.						Reap. P.D.		
Cau-	Dis-		C.C.	H.F.	S.F.	Cau-	Dis-		C.C.	H.F.	S.F.
cus	trict	Senator	1955	450	705	cus	trict	Senator	1955	450	705
C	42	Andersen, E.L.	Y	Y	Y	C	62	McKee, John	N	N	N
C	11	Anderson, A.A.	N	Y	N	C	39	Masek, Joseph	N	Y	N
C	7	Anderson, E.J.	N	Y	N	C	17	Malone, Martin	N	N	N
L	32	Anderson, M.H.	Y	Y	Y	C	31	Mayhood, Ralph	N	Y	N
C	48	Behmler, F.W.	N	Y	N	C	21	Metcalf, John	N	N	N
L	22	Bonniwell, M.	Y	N	Y	C	36	Miller, Archie	N	A	N
C	4	Burdick, W.	N	Y	Y	C	55	Mitchell, C.C.	N	Y	N
C	57	Butler, G.H.	N	Y	N	C	35	Mullin, Gerald	Y	N	N
L	59	Carr, H.	N	Y	Y	L	66	Murray, Louis	N	N	Y
C	24	Child, F.G.	N	N	N	C	16	Nelson, H.S.	Y	N	N
C	3	Dunlap, R.R.	N	N	N	L	38	Novak, B.G.	N	A	A
C	9	Erickson, C.L.	N	Y	N	L	50	Nycklemoe, H.	Y	NV	Y
C	34	Feidt, D.S.	N	Y	N	C	52	O'Brien, Geo.	N	Y	Y
C	10	Franz, W.J.	N	N	N	C	40	O'Loughlin, H.J.	Y	Y	N
L	29	Fraser, Donald	Y	Y	Y	L	23	Olson, Oscar L.	Y	N	Y
C	19	George, G.C.	N	N	N	L	60	Peterson, Elmer	Y	Y	Y
C	20	Gillien, A.	Y	Y	Y	C	18	Quie, Albert	Y	Y	Y
L	54	Hanson, N.W.	Y	Y	Y	C	45	Richardson, J.L.	N	Y	N
C	6	Hanson, R.	Y	Y	N	C	58	Rogers, Herbert	N	Y	N
C	46	Harren, H.M.	N	Y	N	C	33	Root, Charles	N	Y	N
L	51	Heuer, Wm. C.F.	Y	N	Y	C	53	Rosenmeier, G.	N	Y	N
C	5	Holand, P.J.	N	Y	N	L	43	Salmore, H.	Y	Y	Y
C	26	Holmquist, S.	Y	Y	Y	L	37	Schultz, H.W.	Y	Y	Y
C	8	Imm, Val	N	Y	N	C	67	Sinclair, D.	N	Y	N
L	56	Johnson, C.E.	Y	Y	NV	C	12	Vadheim, J.	Y	N	N
C	1	Johnson, J.A.	N	Y	N	L	61	Vukelich, T.	Y	Y	Y
L	44	Johnson, R.W.	Y	Y	Y	C	25	Wahlstrand, H.	Y	Y	N
C	13	Josefson, J.A.	N	Y	N	L	63	Walz, N.J.	Y	N	Y
L	28	Kalina, H.	Y	Y	Y	C	49	Wefald, M.	N	Y	N
C	2	Keller, J.R.	N	Y	N	C	27	Welch, Thomas	N	Y	N
C	15	Kroehler, F.P.	N	Y	N	C	41	Westin, L.E.	Y	Y	Y
C	64	Larson, N.	N	N	N	L	65	Wiseth, Roy	Y	N	Y
C	47	Lofvegren, C.	N	Y	N	C	30	Wright, Donald	N	Y	N
						C	14	Zwach, John	N	Y	N

Code: C - Conservative caucus
 L - Liberal caucus
 Number - Legislative District
 Y - Yes
 N - No
 NV - Not voting
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Note: The League reports the roll call votes, only the Legislators can interpret them.

HOUSE VOTES

Votes were taken in the House of Representatives on Constitutional Convention (H.F. 289). Supporters voted yes on this bill.

Votes were taken on the Bergerud Reapportionment bill (H.F. 450). Supporters voted yes on this bill.

Votes were taken also on the Senate amended version of the Bergerud Reapportionment Bill (Amended Bill). This bill came back to the House for concurrence. While the supporters of the bill were considering a compromise, the opponents made a motion to table the bill, thus killing it. This vote does not give a clear picture of support or opposition to the bill.

Votes were taken on the Party Designation bill (H.F. 41). Supporters voted yes on this bill.

Cau- cus	Dis- trict	Representative	C.C. H.F. 289	Bergerud-Reapportionment H.F. 450	Amended Bill	Party Desig. H.F. 41
L	31	Adams, James L.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	66	Affeldt, Leland A.Sr.	Y	N	Y	Y
C	55	Alderink, George	N	N	Y	N
C	47	Anderson, D. F.	N	N	Y	N
C	33	Anderson, H. J.	Y	Y	N	Y
C	15	Anderson, H. R.	Y	N	Y	Y
C	42	Anderson, J. T.	Y	Y	N	Y
C	1	Anderson, Moppy	N	N	Y	Y
C	55	Angstman, Geo. L.	N	Y	N	Y
C	50	Aune, Ole O. Jr.	A	A	Y	A
L	63	Basford, Harry	N	Y	Y	Y
L	67	Battles, Everett	Y	N	Y	Y
C	37	Beanblossom, Sheldon	N	Y	N	Y
C	36	Bergerud, Alf	Y	Y	Y	Y
L	64	Bergeson, Burnett J.	Y	N	Y	Y
L	62	Berglund, Elmer E.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	57	Campton, Chas. E.	Y	N	Y	Y
L	62	Chilgren, E. J.	Y	Y	NV	Y
C	30	Christie, Thomas N.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	61	Cina, Fred A.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	6	Conn, Edmond F.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	48	Conroy, Dan	N	N	Y	N
C	11	Cummings, Roy H.	N	N	Y	N
C	12	Cunningham, L. P.	N	N	Y	Y
L	65	Day, Walter E.	Y	Y	N	Y
C	14	Dirlam, Aubrey W.	Y	N	Y	N
C	50	Dunn, Roy E.	N	N	NV	Y
C	1	Duxhury, L. L. Jr.	N	N	Y	Y
L	23	Enestvedt, Odean	Y	Y	N	N
C	7	Erdahl, L. B.	Y	N	Y	Y
C	22	Ernst, Emil C.	Y	Y	Y	Y
L	21	Fitzgerald, John H.	N	N	Y	Y
C	67	Fitzsimons, Richard	N	N	Y	N
C	4	Franke, Donald T.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	10	Franz, Sam	Y	N	Y	Y
C	33	French, George	N	Y	NV	Y
L	28	Fudro, Stanley J.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	61	Fugina, Peter X.	Y	Y	N	Y

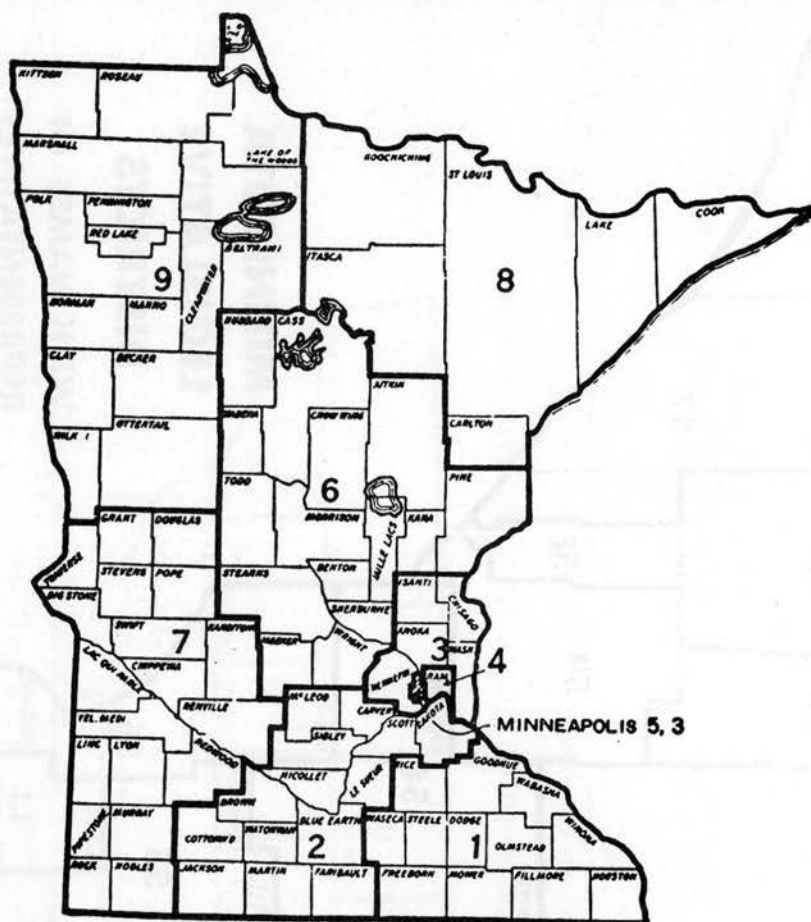
<u>Cau-</u> <u>cus</u>	<u>Dis-</u> <u>trict</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>C.C.</u> <u>H.F.289</u>	<u>Bergerud-Reapportionment</u> <u>H.F. 450</u>	<u>Amended Bill</u>	<u>Party Desig.</u> <u>H.F. 41</u>
C	12	Fuller, Graham	N	N	Y	N
C	3	Furst, Frank	N	N	Y	Y
L	53	Gerling, Gordon	Y	Y	N	N
L	35	Goodin, H. P.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	39	Grittner, Karl F.	Y	Y	N	Y
C	24	Grussing, George P.	N	N	Y	N
L	31	Hagland, Carl G.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	53	Halsted, Charles L.	Y	Y	Y	N
C	16	Hartle, John A.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	5	Herzog, Jacob J.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	24	Hofstad, Alvin O.	Y	N	Y	Y
C	48	Huebner, Fred H.	N	N	Y	N
L	48	Iverson, Carl M.	N	N	Y	N
C	14	Jensen, Carl A.	N	N	Y	Y
L	25	Johnson, Alfred I.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	49	Johnson, E. P.	Y	Y	N	Y
C	54	Johnson, O. L.	Y	N	Y	Y
L	27	Jude, Victor N.	Y	N	Y	Y
L	41	Karth, Joe	Y	Y	N	Y
L	37	Kelley, Jerry	Y	Y	N	Y
L	13	Kelly, Dr. J. J.	Y	N	Y	Y
L	56	King, Carroll F.	Y	Y	N	Y
C	46	Kinzer, John J.	N	N	Y	N
C	20	Klaus, Walter K.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	25	Knudsen, E. P.	Y	N	Y	Y
L	32	Kording, H. J.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	59	LaBrosse, Francis	Y	Y	N	Y
C	67	Langen, Odin E. S.	N	N	Y	N
C	19	Langley, Clarence G.	Y	N	Y	Y
L	5	Larson, Alf	Y	N	Y	N
C	36	Lindquist, Leonard E.	Y	Y	N	Y
C	51	Lorentz, Joe P.	N	N	Y	N
C	63	Lovik, A. W.	Y	N	Y	Y
L	30	Luther, Sally	Y	Y	N	Y
C	34	McCarty, Glenn D.	Y	Y	NV	Y
L	2	McGill, John D.	Y	Y	Y	N
L	17	McGuire, Michael E.	N	N	Y	N
C	2	McLeod, Donald	N	N	Y	N
C	11	Mitchell, Don	Y	N	Y	N
L	35	Mosier, Leo D.	Y	Y	N	Y
C	15	Mueller, August B.	N	N	N	Y
L	59	Munger, Willard M.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	29	Murk, George E.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	49	Nelson, R. N.	N	N	Y	Y
L	47	Newhouse, Julian O.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	44	Nordin, John H.	Y	Y	N	N
C	26	Nordlie, O. Gerhard	N	N	Y	N
C	57	Noreen, Roger F.	Y	Y	N	Y
C	56	Oberg, A. F.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	43	O'Dea, Richard W.	Y	Y	N	Y
C	8	Ogle, Arthur H.	A	Y	N	Y
L	9	Olson, Carl G.	Y	N	Y	N
L	10	Olson, G. W.	Y	N	Y	Y
C	21	Ottinger, Howard	N	N	Y	N
L	40	Otto, Alfred J.	Y	Y	N	Y

Caucus	District	Representative	C.C.	Bergerud-Reapportionment		Party Design.
			H.F. 289	H.F. 450	Amended Bill	
C	42	Parks, Clifton	Y	Y	N	Y
C	14	Paulson, Harvey N.	N	N	Y	N
C	58	Peterson, Jack M.	Y	Y	N	N
L	38	Podgorski, Anthony	Y	Y	N	Y
L	40	Popovich, Peter S.	Y	Y	N	NV
L	38	Prifrel, Joseph Jr.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	45	Reed, Dewey	Y	Y	N	NV
C	52	Renner, Robert G.	N	N	Y	A
L	60	Rutter, Loren S.	Y	Y	N	Y
C	8	Schulz, Roy	Y	N	Y	Y
C	45	Schumann, Marvin C.	N	N	Y	Y
C	16	Searle, Rod	Y	N	Y	Y
L	52	Shipka, Vladimir	Y	Y	N	Y
L	41	Shovell, Bill	Y	Y	N	Y
L	29	Skeate, John P.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	48	Sorensen, Wm.	Y	N	Y	Y
C	18	Sundet, A. O.	N	Y	Y	Y
C	43	Swenson, Edwin T.	Y	Y	N	Y
C	27	Swenson, Glen W.	Y	N	Y	N
C	51	Thompson, Helmer	N	N	Y	N
C	1	Thompson, Teman	A	N	Y	Y
L	46	Tiemann, Edmund C.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	28	Tomczyk, Edward J.	Y	Y	N	Y
C	50	Ukkelberg, Cliff	N	N	Y	Y
C	9	Van De Riet, G. J.	N	N	Y	N
L	32	Volstad, Edward J.	A	A	N	Y
C	19	Voxland, Roy L.	N	N	Y	N
L	58	Wanwick, Arne C.	Y	Y	Y	Y
L	13	Warnke, Curtis B.	Y	N	Y	Y
L	12	Wee, Reuben	Y	N	Y	Y
L	53	Wetzel, George P.	Y	Y	Y	N
L	65	Wichterman, B. M.	Y	N	Y	Y
L	60	Widstrand, Paul B.	Y	Y	N	Y
L	66	Wilder, Harvey A.	Y	N	Y	Y
C	50	Windmiller, E. J.	N	N	Y	Y
L	39	Wozniak, D. D.	Y	Y	N	Y
C	34	Wright, F. Gordon	Y	Y	N	Y
L	54	Yetka, Lawrence	Y	Y	N	Y

Code: C - Conservative caucus
 L - Liberal caucus
 Number - Legislative District
 Y - Yes
 N - No
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 A - Absent

Note: The League reports the roll call votes, only your legislator can interpret them.

MEMBERS OF THE 85TH CONGRESS



MAP OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

UNITED STATES SENATORS

Edward J. Thye (R)

H. H. Humphrey (D)

REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS

DISTRICT

1. A. H. Andresen, R.
2. J. P. O'Hara, R.
3. Roy W. Wier, D.
4. E. J. McCarthy, D.
5. Walter H. Judd, R.
6. Fred Marshall, D.
7. H. C. Andersen, R.
8. J. A. Blatnik, D.
9. Coya Knutson, D.

Official Address

U. S. SENATORS MAY BE ADDRESSED AT SENATE OFFICE BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C.

U. S. CONGRESSMEN MAY BE ADDRESSED AT HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C.

When Congress Passes a Law

relating to business, you as a business man know pretty well what the effect of that law will be. But experience has shown that members of Congress do not always know how and why their legislative acts will affect business, unless business men write and tell them. Your views are always welcome, for the men who stay in Congress the longest are those who read and heed their constituents' letters. BUT there's a right way to write effectively to your Congressman. May we offer these suggestions:

Do

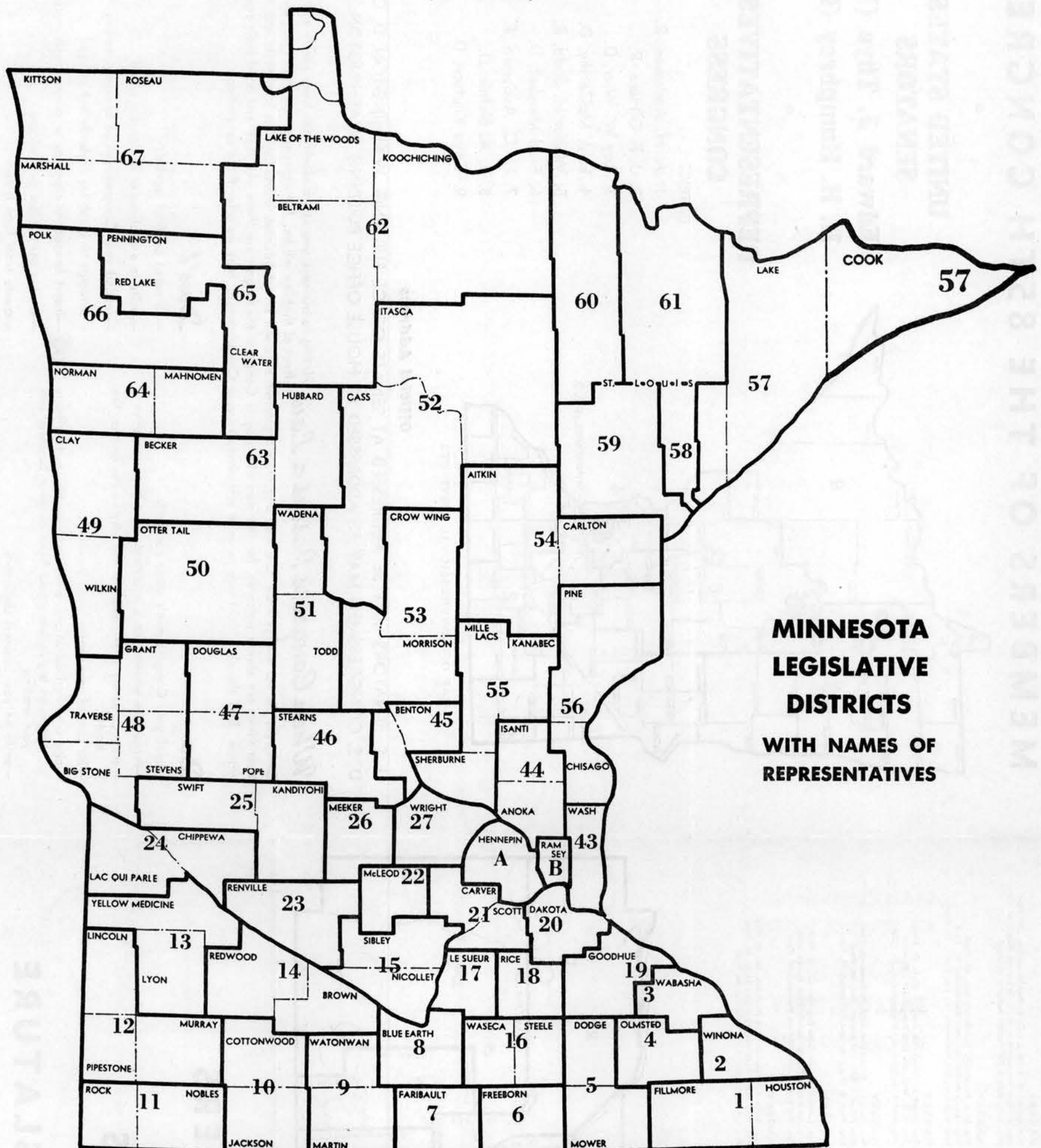
- spell your Congressman's name correctly
- make sure whether he is a Senator or a Representative
- state concisely what you think and why — the briefer, the better
- be sure of your facts
- cite specific illustrations, whenever possible, as to effects proposed legislation would have on your business and your workers
- write on your business stationery
- sign your name plainly. Type it under the signature
- send a letter rather than a telegram when time permits
- seize every opportunity to become personally acquainted with your Congressman

Don't

- threaten political reprisals
- write in a captious or belligerent mood
- remind your Congressman of broken promises
- attempt to speak for anybody but yourself
- insert newspaper clippings or mimeograph material
- send a chain letter or postcard
- quote from form letters
- write only when you want a favor. Letters of commendation are always welcome
- try to make an errand boy out of your Congressman
- become a chronic letter writer

MEMBERS OF THE 1957 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE

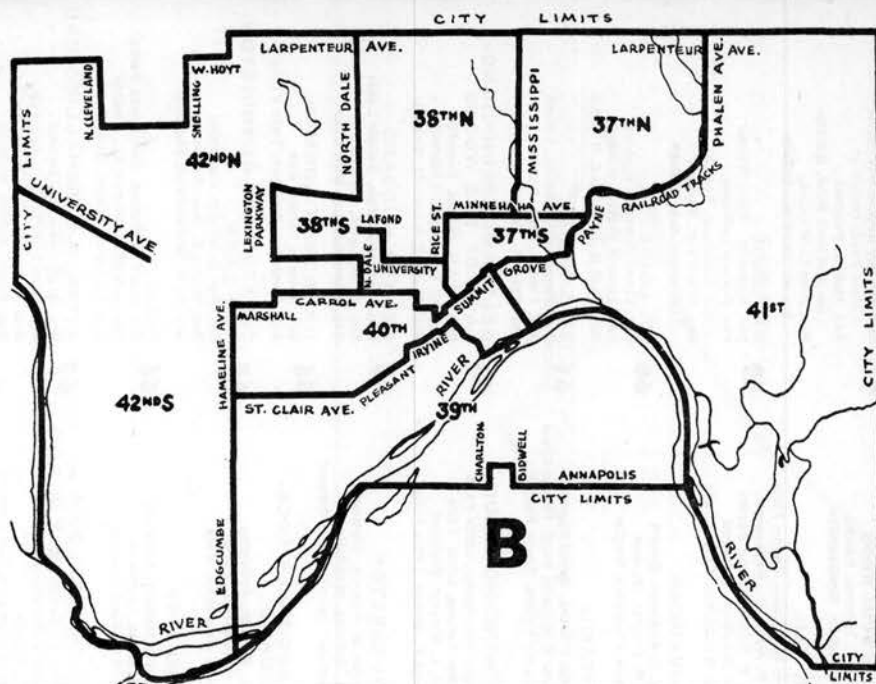
(60th SESSION)



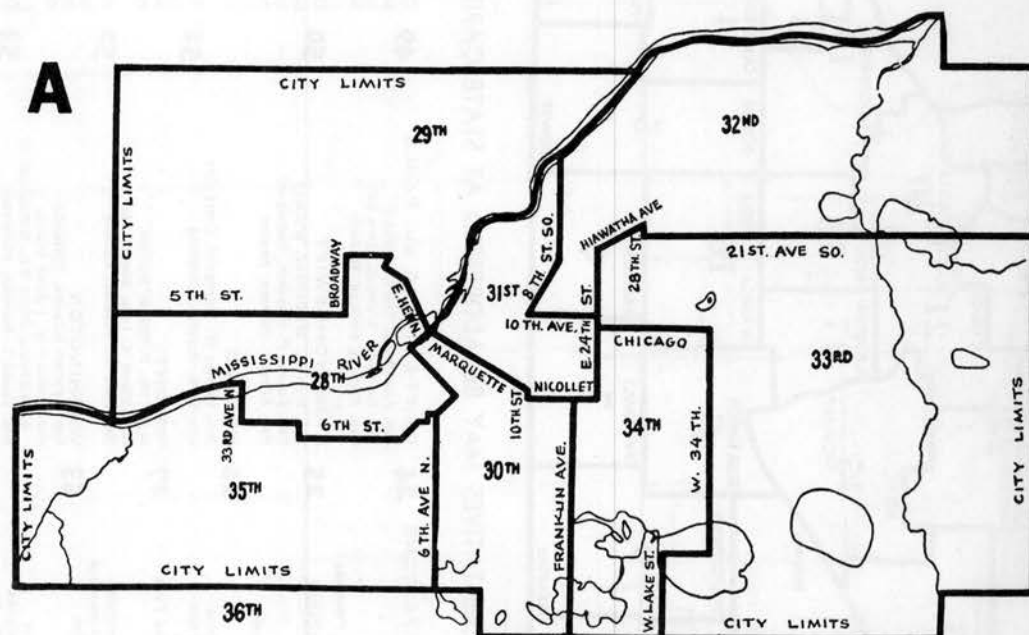
MINNESOTA LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS WITH NAMES OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES MAY BE ADDRESSED AT STATE CAPITOL, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

- | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| 1 FILLMORE-HOUSTON
Sen. John A. Johnson, Preston
Rep. Moppy Anderson, Preston
Rep. Teman Thompson, Lanesboro
Rep. Lloyd L. Duxbury, Jr., Caledonia | 12 LINCOLN-MURRAY-PIPESTONE
Sen. Joseph Vadheim, Tyler
Rep. Graham Fuller, Ivanhoe
Rep. Reuben Wee, Balaton
Rep. Lawrence P. Cunningham, Pipestone | 24 CHIPPEWA-LAC QUI PARLE
Sen. Fay George Child, Maynard
Rep. George P. Grussing, Clara City
Rep. Alvin O. Hofstad, Madison | 49 CLAY-WILKIN
Sen. Magnus Wefald, Hawley
Rep. Erwin P. Johnson, Hawley
Rep. R. N. Nelson, Breckenridge | 58 ST. LOUIS
Sen. Herbert Rogers, Box 297A,
Haines Road, Duluth II
Rep. Jack M. Peterson,
1406 Anderson Road, Duluth
Rep. Arne C. Wavick,
215 W. Third St., Duluth |
| 2 WINONA COUNTY
Sen. J. R. Keller, 59 E. Broadway, Winona
Rep. John D. McGill, Winona
Rep. Donald McLeod, Lewiston | 13 LYON-YELLOW MEDICINE
Sen. J. A. Josefson, Minnesota
Rep. Dr. J. J. Kelly, Marshall
Rep. Curtis B. Warnke, Wood Lake | 25 KANDIYOHI-SWIFT
Sen. Harry L. Wahlstrand, Willmar
Rep. Eugene P. Knudsen, Kandiyohi
Rep. Alfred I. Johnson, Benson | 50 OTTER TAIL
Sen. Henry Nycklemoe, Fergus Falls
Rep. Ole O. Aune, Jr., Underwood
Rep. Roy E. Dunn, Pelican Rapids
Rep. Cliff Ukkelberg, Clitherall
Rep. E. J. Windmiller, Fergus Falls | 59 ST. LOUIS
Rep. Homer M. Carr, Proctor
Rep. Francis LaBrosse,
3138 Restormel, Duluth
Rep. Willard M. Munger,
7408 Grand Ave., Duluth |
| 3 WABASHA
Sen. Robert R. Dunlap, Plainview
Rep. Frank Furst, Lake City | 14 BROWN-REDWOOD
Sen. John M. Zwach, Walnut Grove
Rep. Harvey N. Paulson, Sleepy Eye
Rep. Carl A. Jensen, Sleepy Eye
Rep. Aubrey W. Dirlam, Redwood Falls | 26 MEEKER
Sen. Stanley W. Holmquist, Grove City
Rep. O. G. Nordlie, Litchfield | 51 TODD-WADENA
Sen. Wm. C. F. Heuer, Bertha
Rep. Joe P. Lorentz, Wadena
Rep. Helmer Thompson, Staples | 60 ST. LOUIS
Sen. Elmer Peterson, Hibbing
Rep. Loren S. Rutter, Kinney
Rep. Paul B. Widstrand, Hibbing |
| 4 OLMSTED
Sen. Walter Burdick, 1425-2nd St. S. E.,
Rochester
Rep. Donald T. Franke, Rochester | 15 NICOLLET-SIBLEY
Sen. Franklin P. Kroehler, Henderson
Rep. Harold R. Anderson, North Mankato
Rep. August B. Mueller, Arlington | 27 WRIGHT
Sen. Thos. P. Welch, Buffalo
Rep. Victor N. Jude, Maple Lake
Rep. Glen W. Swenson, Buffalo | 52 CASS-ITASCA
Sen. George O'Brien, Grand Rapids
Rep. George E. Eriksen, Rt. 2, Pequot Lakes
Rep. Vladimir Shipka, Grand Rapids | 61 ST. LOUIS
Sen. Thomas D. Vukelich, Gilbert
Rep. Fred A. Cina, Aurora
Rep. Peter X. Fugina, Virginia |
| 5 DODGE-MOWER
Sen. P. J. Holand, Box 473, Austin
Rep. Alf Larson, Hayfield
Rep. Jacob J. Herzog, Austin | 16 STEELE-WASECA
Sen. Harold S. Nelson, Owatonna
Rep. John A. Hartie, Rt. 4, Owatonna
Rep. Rodney N. Searle, Rt. 1, Waseca | 43 WASHINGTON
Sen. Raphael Salmore, Stillwater
Rep. Richard W. (Dick) O'Dea,
92 Wildwood Beach Rd., Mahtomedi 15
Rep. Edwin T. Swenson, Stillwater | 53 CROW WING-MORRISON
Sen. Gordon Rosenmeier, Little Falls
Rep. Gordon Gerling, Little Falls
Rep. Chas. L. Halsted, Brainerd
Rep. George P. Wetzel, Little Falls | 62 BELTRAMI-KOOCHICHING-
LAKE OF THE WOODS
Sen. John H. McKee, Bemidji
Rep. E. J. Chilgren, Littlefork
Rep. Elmer E. Berglund, Bemidji |
| 6 FREEBORN
Sen. Rudolph Hanson, Albert Lea
Rep. Edmond F. Conn, Alden | 17 LE SUEUR
Sen. Martin M. Malone, Montgomery
Rep. Michael E. McGuire, Montgomery | 44 ANOKA-ISANTI
Sen. Ralph W. Johnson, Isanti
Rep. John H. Nordin, 44-68th Way
N. E., Minneapolis 21 | 54 AITKIN-CARLTON
Sen. Norman W. Hanson, Cromwell
Rep. O. L. Johnson, McGregor
Rep. Lawrence "Larry" Yetka, Cloquet | 63 BECKER-HUBBARD
Sen. Norman J. Walz, Detroit Lakes
Rep. A. W. Lovik, Park Rapids
Rep. Harry Basford, Wolf Lake |
| 7 FARIBAULT
Sen. Ernest J. Anderson, Frost
Rep. L. B. Erdahl, Frost | 18 RICE
Sen. Albert H. Quie, Dennison
Rep. A. O. Sundet, Rt. 3, Faribault | 45 BENTON-SHERBURNE-STEARNs
Sen. John L. Richardson, St. Cloud
Rep. Marvin C. Schumann, Rice
Rep. Dewey Reed, St. Cloud | 55 KANABEC-MILLE LACS-
SHERBURNE
Sen. C. C. Mitchell, Princeton
Rep. George Alderink, Pease
Rep. Geo. L. Angstman, Mora | 64 MAHNOMEN-NORMAN
Sen. Norman Larson, Ada
Rep. Burnett J. Bergeson, Twin Valley |
| 8 BLUE EARTH
Sen. Val Imm, Mankato
Rep. Arthur H. Ogle, 601 Mound, Mankato
Rep. Roy Schulz, Rt. 4, Mankato | 19 GOODHUE
Sen. Grover C. George, Goodhue
Rep. Roy L. Voxland, Kenyon
Rep. Clarence G. Langley, Red Wing | 46 STEARNs
Sen. Henry M. Harren, Albany
Rep. Edmund C. Tiemann, Sauk Centre
Rep. John J. Kinzer, Cold Spring | 56 CHISAGO-PINE
Sen. C. Elmer Johnson, Almeland
Rep. A. F. Oberg, Lindstrom
Rep. Carroll F. King, Denham | 65 CLEARWATER-PENNINGTON-
RED LAKE
Sen. Roy E. Wiseth, Goodridge
Rep. Walter E. Day, Bagley
Rep. B. M. Wichterman, Plummer |
| 9 MARTIN-WATONWAN
Sen. Chris L. Erickson, Fairmont
Rep. G. J. Van De Riet, Fairmont
Rep. Carl G. Olson, St. James | 20 DAKOTA
Sen. Arthur Gillen, 1515 Pleasant, So. St. Paul
Rep. Walter K. Klaus, Farmington | 47 DOUGLAS-POPE
Sen. Clifford Lofvegren, RFD 3, Alexandria
Rep. Julian O. Newhouse, Alexandria
Rep. Delbert F. Anderson, Starbuck | 57 COOK-LAKE-ST. LOUIS
Sen. Gordon H. Butler, 3500 E. 3rd, Duluth
Rep. Rodger F. Noreen, 121 N. 16th
Ave. E., Duluth
Rep. Chas. E. Campton, Two Harbors | 66 POLK
Sen. Louis A. Murray, East Grand Forks
Rep. Leland A. Affeldt, Sr., Fosston
Rep. Harvey A. Wilder, Crookston |
| 10 COTTONWOOD-JACKSON
Rep. Sam Franz, Mountain Lake
Rep. Geo. W. Olson, Mountain Lake | 21 CARVER-SCOTT
Sen. John A. Metcalf, Shakopee
Rep. Howard Ottinger, Chaska
Rep. John M. Fitzgerald, New Prague | 48 BIG STONE-GRANT-STEVENs-
TRAVERSE
Sen. Fred W. Behmler, Morris
Rep. Wm. Sorensen, Graceville
Rep. Carl M. Iverson, Ashby
Rep. Fred H. Huebner, Donnelly
Rep. Dan Conroy, Dumont | | 67 KITTSON-MARSHALL-ROSEAU
Sen. Donald Sinclair, Stephen
Rep. Odin E. S. Langen, Kennedy
Rep. Richard W. Fitzsimons, Argyle
Rep. Everett Battles, Warroad |
| 11 NOBLES-ROCK
Sen. A. A. (Andy) Anderson, Luverne
Rep. Don Mitchell, Round Lake
Rep. Roy H. Cummings, Luverne | 22 McLEOD
Sen. Milan, Bonniwell, Hutchinson
Rep. Emil C. Ernst, Lester Prairie | | | |
| | 23 RENVILLE
Rep. Oscar L. Olson, Fairfax
Rep. Odean Enestvedt, Sacred Heart | | | |



- 37** **RAMSEY**
Sen. Harold W. Schultz, 1176 E. Hawthorne Ave., St. Paul
Rep. Sheldon Beanblossom, 492 E. Wheelock Pkwy., St. Paul
Rep. Jerry Kelley, 726 Capitol Heights, St. Paul
- 38** **RAMSEY**
Sen. B. G. Novak, 747 Van Buren Ave., St. Paul
Rep. Joseph Priefel, Jr., 1031 Woodbridge, St. Paul
Rep. Anthony (Al) Podgorski, 642 Van Buren, St. Paul
- 39** **RAMSEY**
Sen. Joseph H. Masek, 130 Prospect Blvd., St. Paul
Rep. D. D. Wozniak, 1216 Bayard Ave., St. Paul
Rep. Karl F. Grittner, 824 Cherokee Ave., St. Paul 7
- 40** **RAMSEY**
Sen. Harold J. O'Loughlin, 1137 Portland, St. Paul
Rep. Alfred J. Otto, 194 Summit Ave., St. Paul
Rep. Peter S. Popovich, 1298 Fairmount, St. Paul
- 41** **RAMSEY**
Sen. Leslie E. Westin, 2160 Edgerton St., St. Paul
Rep. Joe Karth, 2334 E. County Road D., St. Paul
Rep. Bill Shovell, 466 Johnson Parkway, St. Paul
- 42** **RAMSEY**
Sen. Elmer L. Andersen, 2230 Hoyt Ave. W., St. Paul
Rep. John Tracy Anderson, 1048 Van Slyke, St. Paul
Rep. Clifton Parks, 1678 Beechwood, St. Paul



- 28 HENNEPIN**
Sen. Harold Kalina, 115-36th Ave. N. E., Minneapolis
Rep. Stanley J. Fudro, 2322-2nd St. N. E., Minneapolis
Rep. Edward J. (Ed) Tomczyk, 1614 Calif. St. N. E., Mpls.
- 29 HENNEPIN**
Sen. Donald Fraser, 813-7th St. S. E., Minneapolis
Rep. George E. Murk, 3357 Lincoln St. N. E., Minneapolis
Rep. John P. (Skeets) Skeate, 609 Taylor St. N. E., Mpls.
- 30 HENNEPIN**
Sen. Donald O. Wright, 1112 Washburn Ave. So., Minneapolis
Rep. Thomas N. Christie, 1219 Lakeview Ave., Minneapolis
Rep. Sally Luther, 1937 Kenwood Pkwy., Minneapolis
- 31 HENNEPIN**
Sen. Ralph L. Mayhoad, 1810 Washington Ave. So., Mpls.
Rep. James L. (Jim) Adams, 1604-10th Ave. So., Minneapolis
Rep. Carl G. Hagland, 1913 So. 6th St., Minneapolis
- 32 HENNEPIN**
Sen. Marvin H. Anderson, 5234-32nd Ave. So., Minneapolis
Rep. Herman J. Kording, 3533-36th Ave. So., Minneapolis
Rep. Edw. J. "Eddie" Volstad, 3327-25th Ave. So., Mpls.
- 33 HENNEPIN**
Sen. Chas. W. Root, 5104 Colfax Ave. So., Minneapolis
Rep. Harold J. Anderson, 4919 Colfax Ave. So., Minneapolis
Rep. Geo. A. French, 5140 Penn Ave. So., Minneapolis
- 34 HENNEPIN**
Sen. Daniel S. Feidt, 1031 N. W. Bank Bldg., Minneapolis
Rep. Glenn D. McCarty, 2701 Grand Ave. So., Minneapolis
Rep. F. (Fred) Gordon Wright, 2912 Chowen Ave. So., Mpls.
- 35 HENNEPIN**
Sen. Gerald T. Mullin, 4314 Xerxes No., Minneapolis
Rep. H. P. (Pat) Goodin, 3415 Knox Ave. No., Minneapolis
Rep. Leo D. Mosier, 4340 Washburn Ave. No., Minneapolis
- 36 HENNEPIN**
Sen. Archie H. Miller, 4144 Shady Oak Rd., Hopkins
Rep. Leonard E. Lindquist, 6940 W. River Rd. No., Mpls.
Rep. Alf Bergerud, 5100 Ridge Rd., (Edina), Mpls. 24

KNOW *Your* MEMBERS
OF THE
85TH CONGRESS
AND THE
1957 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE
(60th SESSION)

MINNESOTA RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION, Inc.
112 North Seventh Street
MINNEAPOLIS 3, MINNESOTA

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

FEB 19 1957

Leg. - F2D2D 1957

February 20, 1957
Additional copies - 2¢

WHO'S WHO?
in the
60th SESSION of the MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE

OFFICERS of the House of Representatives - 70 Liberals, 60 Conservatives, 1 unseated representative from Cass County

Speaker - Mr. A. I. Johnson, Benson, Swift County, 25th District, Liberal. The Speaker is chosen by vote of the House. He is the presiding officer. He is charged with the appointment of all House Committees.

Majority Floor Leader - Mr. Fred A. Cina, Aurora, St. Louis County, 61st District, Liberal. He is the spokesman for the Liberals. He was the minority leader in the 1953 session and majority leader in the 1955 session. He is also Chairman of the House Rules Committee.

Vice-Chairman of the Rules Committee - Mr. D. D. Wozniak, St. Paul 39th District, Liberal. Mr. Wozniak is assistant to Mr. Cina and helps to implement the Liberal program in the House.

Minority Floor Leader - Mr. Aubrey Dirlam, Red Wood Falls, Redwood County, 14 District, Conservative. He is the official leader and spokesman for the Conservatives in the House. Mr. Odin Langen, Kennedy, Kittson County, 67 District, Conservative, shares this responsibility with Mr. Dirlam.

OFFICERS of the Senate - 48 Conservatives, 19 Liberals

Lieutenant Governor - Mr. Karl F. Rolvaag, Rochester, Olmsted County, 4th District, Liberal. The Lieutenant Governor under the Constitution is the presiding officer of the Senate, but votes only in case of a tie.

President pro tempore - Mr. Thomas P. Welch, Buffalo, Wright County, 27th District, Conservative. Chosen by the Conservative Senators as their leader. He also presides in the absence of the Lieutenant Governor.

Majority Floor Leader - Mr. Archie Miller, Hopkins, Hennepin County, 36th District, Conservative. Chosen by the Conservative Senators as their spokesman.

Minority Floor Leader - Mr. Harold W. Schultz, St. Paul, Ramsey County, 37th District, Liberal. Chosen by the Liberal Senators as their spokesman.

PRINTED MATERIALS AVAILABLE

The Journal of the House and Journal of the Senate - all the business of the House and Senate is printed daily in the Journals, and is available the morning after the session. Calendar - printed daily, gives status of bills. Legislative Handbook - is published each session, lists rules, committee assignments and rooms. Bills - are printed after committee has acted on them. The above materials are available in these rooms: Clerk of the House, Room 214; Clerk of the Senate, Room 234; House Index Clerk, Room 212; Senate Index Clerk, Room 239½.

TOURS - Mr. Hugh T. Kennedy, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, House of Representatives, Room 313, will make complete arrangements for tours and reservations for House and Senate seats. Personally conducted tours are scheduled for 9:15, 10:15, 11:15, 1:15, 2:15, and 3:15. If you prefer to make the arrangements separately, you may do so in the following rooms: for guided tours, Room 17; for House gallery seats, Mr. Kennedy in Room 313; for Senate gallery seats, Colonel Lennon, Senate Chambers.

Requested 1957 Legislative Report

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15 & Washington Aves. S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
 FE 8-8791 Minn#21-11/56-40

MINNESOTA STATE REPRESENTATIVES

(68)

This list includes the Representative's caucus*, district, name, county and address.
 *The caucus information, C for conservative, L for liberal, is from an Associated Press article, and shows how he is "expected to caucus" by the reporter. The first vote for Speaker of the House will indicate his caucus definitely. Three districts, 13, 52 and 58 recounts. Watch newspapers, and correct this sheet accordingly. Doubtful winners indicated by asterisks.

✓ L 31	Adams, James L.	Hennepin Co. 1604 10 Ave. S., Minneapolis
✓ L 66	Affeldt, Leland A. Sr.	Polk Co. Fosston
✓ C 55	Alderink, George	Millelacs-Kanabec-Sherburne Co. Pease
C 47	Anderson, D.F.	Pope Co. Starbuck
✓ C 33	Anderson, H.J.	Hennepin Co. 4919 Colfax Ave. So., Minneapolis
C 15	Anderson, H.R.	Nicollet Co. North Mankato
✓ C 42	Anderson, J.T.	Ramsey No. Co. 1048 Van Slyke Ave., St. Paul
✓ C 1	Anderson, Moppy	Fillmore-Houston Co. Preston
✓ C 55	Angstman, Geo. L.	Mille Lacs-Kanabec-Sherburne Co. Mora
C 50	Aune, Ole O. Jr.	Otter Tail Co. Underwood
✓ L 63	Basford, Harry	Becker Co. Wolf Lake
✓ L 67	Battles, Everett	Roseau Co. Warroad
C 37	Beanblossom, Sheldon	Ramsey No. Co. 492 E. Wheelock Pkwy., St. Paul
✓ C 36	Bergerud, Alf	Hennepin So. Co. 5100 Ridge Road, Minneapolis
✓ L 64	Bergeson, Burnett J.	Norman-Mahnomen Co. Twin Valley
L 62	Berglund, Elmer E.	Beltrami-Lake of Woods Co. Bemidji
L 57	Campton, Chas. E.	Cook-Lake Co. Two Harbors
✓ L 62	Chilgren, E. J.	Koochiching Co. Littlefork
✓ C 30	Christie, Thomas N.	Hennepin Co. 1219 Lakeview Ave., Minneapolis
✓ L 61	Cina, Fred A.	St. Louis Co. Aurora
✓ L 6	Conn, Edmond F.	Freeborn Co. Alden
L 48	Conroy, Dan	Traverse Co. Dumont
C 11	Cummings, Roy H.	Rock Co. Luverne
C 12	Cunningham, L. P.	Pipestone Co. Pipestone
✓ L 65	Day, Walter E.	Pennington-Red Lake-Clearwater Co. Bagley
C 14	Dirlam, Aubrey W.	Redwood Co. Redwood Falls
C 50	Dunn, Roy E.	Otter Tail Co. Pelican Rapids
C 1	Duxbury, L. L. Jr.	Houston Co. Caledonia
✓ L 23	Enestvedt, Odean	Renville Co. Sacred Heart
✓ C 7	Erdahl, L. B.	Faribault Co. Frost
✓ C 52	*Erickson, Geo. E.	Cass Co. Rt. #2, Pequot Lakes
C 22	Ernst, Emil C.	McLeod Co. Lester Prairie
L 21	Fitzgerald, John M.	Scott Co. New Prague
C 67	Fitzsimons, Richard	Marshall Co. Argyle
✓ C 4	Franke, Donald T.	Olmsted Co. Rochester, Minn.
L 10	Franz, Sam	Cottonwood Co. Mountain Lake
✓ C 33	French, George	Hennepin Co. 5140 Penn Ave. So., Minneapolis
✓ L 28	Fudro, Stanley J.	Hennepin Co. 2322 2nd St. N.E., Minneapolis
L 61	Fugina, Peter X.	St. Louis Co. Virginia
C 3	Furst, Frank	Wabasha Co. Lake City
C 12	Fuller, Graham	Lincoln Co. Ivanhoe
L 53	Gerling, Gordon	Crow Wing-Morrison at large, Little Falls
✓ L 35	Goodin, H. P. (Pat)	Hennepin Co. 3415 Knox Ave. No., Minneapolis
✓ L 39	Grittner, Karl F.	Ramsey Co. Ward 6. 824 Cherokee Ave., St. Paul
✓ C 24	Grussing, George P.	Chippewa Co. Clara City
L 31	Hagland, Carl G.	Hennepin Co. 1913 So. 6th St., Minneapolis
L 53	Halsted, Charles L.	Crow Wing Co. Brainerd
C 16	Hartle, John A.	Steele Co. Owatonna
✓ L 5	Herzog, Jacob J.	Mower Co. Austin
✓ L 24	Hofstad, Alvin O.	Lac Qui Parle Co. Madison
✓ C 48	Huebner, Fred H.	Stevens Co. Donnelly
L 48	Iverson, Carl M.	Grant Co. Ashby
✓ C 14	Jensen, Carl A.	Brown Co. Sleepy Eye
✓ L 25	Johnson, Alfred I.	Swift Co. Benson
✓ L 49	Johnson, E. P.	Clay Co. Hawley
✓ C 54	Johnson, O. L.	Aitkin Co. McGregor
✓ L 27	Jude, Victor N.	Wright County. Maple Lake
✓ L 41	Karth, Joe	Ramsey Co. 2334 E. County Road D., St. Paul
L 37	Kelley, Jerry	Ramsey So. Co. 726 Capitol Heights, St. Paul
L 13	Kelly, Dr. J. J.	Lyon Co. Marshall
✓ L 56	King, Carroll F.	Pine Co. Denham
C 46	Kinzer, John J.	Stearns 2nd Division Co. Cold Spring
✓ C 20	Klaus, Walter K.	Dakota Co. Farmington
L 25	Knudsen, E. P.	Kandiyohi Co. Kandiyohi
✓ L 32	Kording, H. J.	Hennepin Co. 3533 36 Ave. So., Minneapolis

✓ C 52 Remer, Rolt

Walker

L 59	LaBrosse, Francis	St. Louis Co. 3138 Restermel St., Duluth
L 67	Langen, Odin E. S.	Kittson Co. Kennedy
L 19	Langley, Clarence G.	Goodhue, 2nd Division Co. Red Wing
L 5	Larson, Alf	Dodge Co. Hayfield
C 36	Lindquist, Leonard E.	Hennepin north Co. 6940 W. River Road North, Minneapolis
C 51	Lorentz, Joe P.	Wadena Co. Wadena
L 63	Lovik, A. W.	Hubbard Co. Park Rapids
L 30	Luther, Sally	Hennepin Co. 1937 Kenwood Parkway, Minneapolis
L 34	McCarty, Glenn D.	Hennepin Co. 2701 Grand Ave. So. Minneapolis
L 2	McGill, John D.	Winona 1st Division Co. Winona
L 17	McGuire, Michael E.	Le Sueur Co. Montgomery
C 2	McLeod, Donald	Winona 2nd Division Co. Lewiston
C 11	Mitchell, Don	Nobles Co. Round Lake
L 35	Mosier, Leo D.	Hennepin Co. 4340 Washburn Ave. N., Minneapolis
C 15	Mueller, August B.	Sibley Co. Arlington
L 59	Munger, Willard M.	St. Louis Co. 7408 Grand Ave., Duluth
L 29	Murk, George E.	Hennepin Co. 3357 Lincoln St. N.E., Minneapolis
L 49	Nelson, R. N.	Wilkin Co. Breckenridge
L 47	Newhouse, Julian O.	Douglas Co. Alexandria,
L 44	Nordin, John H.	Anoka-Isanti Co. 44 68th Way N.E., Minneapolis
C 26	Nordlie, O. Gerhard	Meeker Co. Litchfield
L 57	Noreen, Roger F.	St. Louis Co. 121 N. 16th Ave. E., Duluth
C 56	Oberg, A. F.	Chisago Co. Lindstrom
L 43	O'Dea, Richard W.	Washington Co. 92 Wildwood Beach Rd., Mahtomedi
C 8	Ogle, Arthur H.	Blue Earth Co. 601 Mound Ave., Mankato
L 9	Olson, Carl G.	Watsonwan Co. St. James
C 21	Ottinger, Howard	Carver Co. Chaska
L 40	Otto, Alfred J.	Ramsey Ward 4 Co. 194 Summit Ave., St. Paul
L 42	Parks, Clifton	Ramsey South Co. 1678 Beechwood, St. Paul
C 14	Paulsen, Harvey N.	Redwood-Brown at large Co. Sleepy Eye
C 58	Peterson, Jack M.	St. Louis Co. 1406 Anderson Road, Duluth
L 52	Phillips, Seth R.	Cass Co. Rt. # 6, Brainerd
L 38	Podgorski, Anthony	Ramsey South Co. 642 Van Buren, St. Paul
L 40	Popovich, Peter S.	Ramsey Ward 7 Co. 1298 Fairmount Ave., St. Paul
L 38	Prifrel, Joseph Jr.	Ramsey North Co. 1031 Woodbridge St., St. Paul
L 45	Reed, Dewey	Stearns Co. St. Cloud
L 60	Rutter, Loren S.	St. Louis Co. Kinney
C 8	Schulz, Roy	Blue Earth Co. Rt. # 4 Mankato
L 45	Schumann, Marvin C.	Benton-Sherburne Co. Rice
C 16	Searle, Rod	Waseca Co. Waseca
L 52	Shipka, Vladimir	Itasca Co. Grand Rapids
L 41	Shovell, Bill	Ramsey Co. 466 Johnson Parkway, St. Paul
L 29	Skeate, John P.	Hennepin Co. 609 Taylor St. N.E., Minneapolis
L 48	Sorensen, Wm.	Big Stone Co. Graceville
C 18	Sundet, A. O.	Rice Co. Faribault
C 43	Swenson, Edwin T.	Washington Co. 418 W. Wilkin St. Stillwater
C 27	Swenson, Glen W.	Wright Co. Buffalo
C 51	Thompson, Helmer	Todd Co. Staples
C 1	Thompson, Teman	Fillmore Co. Lanesboro
L 46	Tiemann, Edmund C.	Stearns 1st Division Co. Sauk Centre
L 28	Tomczyk, Edward J.	Hennepin Co. 1614 California St. N.E., Minneapolis
C 50	Ukkelberg, Cliff	Otter Tail Co. Clitherall
C 9	Van De Riet, G. J.	Martin Co. Fairmont
L 32	Volstad, Edward J.	Hennepin Co. 3327 25th Ave. S., Minneapolis
C 19	Voxland, Roy L.	Goodhue 1st Division Co. Kenyon
L 58	Wanvick, Arne C.	St. Louis Co. 215 W. 3rd St., Duluth
L 13	Warnke, Curtis B.	Yellow Medicine Co. Wood Lake
L 12	Wee, Reuben	Murray Co. Balaton
L 53	Wetzel, George P.	Morrison Co. Little Falls
L 65	Wichterman, B. M.	Pennington-Red Lake-Clearwater Co. Plummer
L 60	Widstrand, Paul B.	St. Louis Co. 506 E. 41st St., Hibbing
L 66	Wilder, Harvey A.	Polk Co. Crookston
C 50	Windmiller, E. J.	Otter Tail Co. Fergus Falls
L 39	Wozniak, D. D.	Ramsey Ward 5 Co. 1216 Bayard Ave., St. Paul
C 34	Wright, F. Gordon	Hennepin Co. 2912 Chowen Ave. S., Minneapolis
L 54	Yetka, Lawrence	Carlton Co. Cloquet
L 10	Olson, G. W.	Jackson Co. Mountain Lake

Requested 1957 Legislative Report (45)

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

✓C 42	Andersen, Elmer L.	Ramsey Co. 2230 Hoyt Ave. W., St. Paul 8
✓C 11	Anderson, A. A.	Rock-Nobles Co. Luverne
C 7	Anderson, Ernest J.	Faribault Co. Frost
L 32	Anderson, Marvin H.	Hennepin Co. 5234 32nd Ave. So., Minneapolis 6
✓C 48	Behmler, Fred W.	Stevens-Traverse-Big Stone Co. Morris
✓L 22	Bonniwell, Milan	McLeod Co. Hutchinson
✓C 4	Burdick, Walter	Olmsted Co. 1425 2nd St. S.E., Rochester
✓C 57	Butler, Gordon H.	St. Louis-Cook-Lake Co. 3500 E 3rd St., Duluth
✓L 59	Carr, Homer	St. Louis Co. Proctor
✓C 24	Child, Fay George	Chippewa-Lac Qui Parle Co. Maynard
C 3	Dunlap, Robert R.	Wabasha Co. Plainview
✓C 9	Erickson, Chris L.	Martin-Watonwan Co. Fairmont
✓C 34	Feidt, Daniel S.	Hennepin Co. 1715 W. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis
C 10	Franz, W. J.	Jackson-Cottonwood Co. Mountain Lake
✓L 29	Fraser, Donald	Hennepin Co. 813 7th St. S.E., Minneapolis
✓C 19	George, Grover C.	Goodhue Co. Goodhue
✓C 20	Gillen, Arthur	Dakota Co. 1515 Pleasant Ave., South St. Paul
L 54	Hanson, Norman W.	Carlton-Aitkin Co. Cromwell,
✓C 6	Hanson, Rudolph	Freeborn Co. Albert Lea
C 46	Harren, Henry M.	Stearns Co. Albany
✓L 51	Heuer, Wm. C. F.	Wadena-Todd Co. Bertha
✓C 5	Holand, P. J.	Dodge-Mower Co. Box 473, Austin
✓C 26	Holmquist, Stanley	Meeker Co. Grove City
✓C 8	Imm, Val	Blue Earth Co. Mankato
L 56	Johnson, C. Elmer	Chisago-Pine Co. Almelund
✓C 1	Johnson, John A.	Fillmore-Houston Co. Preston, ...
✓L 44	Johnson, Ralph W.	Anoka-Isanti Co. Isanti
✓C 13	Josefson, J. A.	Lyon-Yellow Medicine Co. Minneota
✓L 28	Kalina, Harold	Hennepin Co. 2015 4th St. N.E., Minneapolis
✓C 2	Keller, J. R.	Winona Co. Rollingstone
C 15	Kroehler, Franklin P.	Nicollet-Sibley Co. Henderson
C 64	Larson, Norman	Norman-Mahnomen Co. Ada
C 47	Lofvegren, Clifford	Douglas-Pope Co. R.F.D.3, Alexandria
C 62	McKee, John H.	Beltrami-Lake of Woods Co. Bemidji
C 39	Masek, Joseph H.	Ramsey Co. 130 Prospect Blvd., St. Paul 1
C 17	Malone, Martin M.	Le Sueur Co. Montgomery
C 31	Mayhood, Ralph L.	Hennepin Co. 1810 Washington Ave. S., Minneapolis
C 21	Metcalf, John A.	Carver-Scott Co. Shakopee
C 36	Miller, Archie	Hennepin Co. 4144 Shady Oak Road, Hopkins
C 55	Mitchell, C. C.	Millelacs-Kanabec-Sherburne Co. Princeton
C 35	Mullin, Gerald T.	Hennepin Co. 4314 Xerxes Ave. No. Minneapolis
L 66	Murray, Louis A.	Polk Co. East Grand Forks
✓C 16	Nelson, Harold S.	Steele-Waseca Co. Owatonna
✓L 38	Novak, B. G.	Ramsey Co. 747 Van Buren, St. Paul 4
✓L 50	Nycklemoe, Henry	Otter Tail Co. Fergus Falls
C 52	O'Brien, George	Cass-Itasca Co. Grand Rapids
C 40	O'Loughlin, Harold J.	Ramsey Co. 1137 Portland, St. Paul
✓L 23	Olson, Oscar L.	Renville Co. Fairfax
L 60	Peterson, Elmer	St. Louis Co. Hibbing
✓C 18	Quie, Albert H.	Rice Co. Dennison
✓C 45	Richardson, John L.	Benton-Sherburne-Stearns Co. 506 8th St. No. St. Cloud
✓C 58	Rogers, Herbert	St. Louis Co. Rt. 2, Box 297A, Duluth
✓C 33	Root, Charles W.	Hennepin Co. 5140 Colfax Ave. So., Minneapolis
✓C 53	Rosenmeier, Gordon	Crow Wing-Morrison Co. Little Falls
✓L 43	Salmore, Raphael	Washington Co. Stillwater
✓L 37	Schultz, Harold W.	Ramsey Co. 822 E. Jenks Ave., St. Paul 6
✓C 67	Sinclair, Donald	Kittson-Roseau-Marshall Co. Stephen
✓C 12	Vadheim, Joseph	Lincoln-Murray-Pipestone Co. Tyler
✓L 61	Vukelich, Thomas D.	St. Louis Co. Gilbert
✓C 25	Wahlstrand, Harry	Kandiyohi-Swift Co. Willmar
✓L 63	Walz, Norman J.	Becker-Hubbard Co. Detroit Lakes
(2) ✓C 49	Wefald, Magnus	Clay-Wilkin Co. Hawley
✓C 27	Welch, Thomas P.	Wright Co. Buffalo
✓C 41	Westin, Leslie E.	Ramsey Co. 2160 Edgerton, St. Paul 6
✓L 65	Wiseth, Roy E.	Clearwater-Red Lake-Pennington Co. Goodridge
✓C 30	Wright, Donald O.	Hennepin Co. 1112 Washburn Ave. So. Minneapolis
✓C 14	Zwach, John M.	Brown-Redwood Co. Walnut Grove

This list includes the Senator's caucus, district, name, county and address.

LET'S TRY A NEW APPROACH!

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

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

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

2. What he hears from his constituents.

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

* * * * *

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

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

Name	Vote in Comm.	Home	2. Counties & Dist.	Newspapers in his Dist. (See Key Below)
ENESVEDT Odear (C)	No	Sacred Heart	Renville Futchinson McLeod (23)	Renville - Star Farmer* (approved Const. Conv.) <u>Bird Island - Union*</u> Sacred Heart - News Olivia - Times-Journal Franklin - Tribune Fairfax - Standard <u>Hector - Mirror</u> Buffalo Lake - News Denube - Enterprise
NEAREST LEAGUE - GRANITE FALLS OLIVIA				
FITZSIMONS Richard A. (C)	No	Argyle	Marshall (67)	Argyle - Banner <u>Warren - Sheaf</u> <u>Middle River - Record</u>
NEAREST LEAGUE - BEMIDJI				
(Voted "no" because of possible unfavorable re- apportionment.)				
IVERSON Carl (L)	No	Ashby	Grant (48)	Hoffman - Tribune* Herman - Review <u>Elbow Lake - Herald</u>
NEAREST LEAGUE - ALEXANDRIA FERGUS FALLS				
LOVIE A.W. (C)	Pass	Park Rapids League	Fubbard (63)	<u>Park Rapids - Enterprise*</u> Nevis News
(He has reordered "State You're In" 3 times - if they wish to refer to it.)				
THOMPSON H. (C)	Pass	Staples	Todd (51)	Clarissa - Independent* Proverville - Blade <u>Bertha - Herald</u> <u>Staples - World</u> <u>Long Prairie - Leader</u> Grey Eagle - Gazette
NEAREST LEAGUE - BRAINERD ALEXANDRIA				
THOMPSON T. (C)	No	Lanesboro	Fillmore (1)	Lanesboro - Leader* Chatfield - News Rushford - Tri-County Record <u>Spring Valley - Tribune</u> <u>Preston - Republican</u> Harmony - News Mabel - Record
("No" because of danger of unfavorable reapportionment)				
NEAREST LEAGUE - AUSTIN ROCHESTER				

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

* * * * *

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE - VOTE LAST SESSION

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

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

5.

MINNEAPOLIS

FEIDT	
Dan (C)	No
FRASER	
Donald (L)	Yes
KALINA	
Harold (L)	Yes
MULLIN	
G. T. (C)	Yes
ROOT	
C. W. (C)	No
WRIGHT	
Donald (C)	No

MINNEAPOLIS STAR & TRIBUNE*

ST. PAUL

MASEK	
J. P. (C)	Yes
O'LOUGHLIN	
H. J. (C)	Yes
SCHULTZ	
H. W. (L)	Yes

ST. PAUL PIONEER-PRESS & DISPATCH*

* * * * *

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

Largest papers are underlined.

July, 1957

OUTLOOK FOR WORK
on
LEGISLATION

The League's 1957 Legislative Report gives you a complete picture of our accomplishments and failures during the last session. One of the best deeds you could do for better government is to see that that Report is read by as many leaders in your community as possible. In the words of a Republican Workshop leader, it is the best Legislative Report she has ever read. It is the opinion of several legislators who have seen it that it is exciting and valuable. In it are many ideas for us to pick up and use next Legislative Session. Your Legislative Committee could make use of it as a textbook. More available from state office for 50¢.

Our objectives during next year, a non-legislative year, will be:

1. Appointment of an over-all state Legislative Committee, in which a League member would be responsible for a certain section of the state.
2. Work towards the election in 1958 in which we elect State Senators as well as Representatives. The Legislative Committee should obtain commitments from Senatorial candidates in regard to the League's program.

Let us not relax! Talk or write to your legislator every opportunity you have. Let him know about the League's position on current issues and about the new League publications as they become available.

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

April 5, 1957

TO: Local League Presidents
FROM: Mrs. Basil Young, President

FINAL CALL TO CONVENTION Enclosed you will find credentials for you as president and the delegates to which your League membership entitles you for the 36th State Convention of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, May 16 and 17. Delegates are official representatives of their League. They may introduce motions and vote. Observers are all other members who wish to attend. A League may send as many observers as it wishes. They may participate in discussion but may not introduce motions or vote. Both delegates and observers must register.

Enclosed is a blank to be used for advance registration and reservations. Advance registration and reservations for the dinner and two luncheons should be made by May 3rd. Be sure to enclose a check payable to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota covering the cost for each individual listed. A convention workbook will be mailed to every member who has registered by May 3rd. If you find you cannot meet the May 3rd deadline, please delay registration until the day of the convention. Enclosed are copies of "What Every Delegate Should Know" for your delegates, containing some highlights of the convention. A complete program will appear in the next Voter. Will you assign the responsibility of taking exhibits to the convention (and taking them back) to one delegate. We are anxious to have as many exhibits of your success stories, publications and methods of promoting state, national and local program as possible. Important business will be transacted at this convention, and I'm sure you will find it fun, too. We will do our best to make it a stimulating and rewarding experience. I shall be looking forward to seeing you there.

SECOND ROUND OF PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS The absolute deadline for the second round of program suggestions has been set for April 24. However, it would be most helpful to the Board, if we could have them in the office by April 18th which is the date we must have our next board meeting.

LEGISLATIVE It was an exciting experience to sit in the House Gallery on March 20th, hear the debate on the Constitutional Convention bill, and witness the final vote for passage, 89-38. It was the first time in its legislative history that this bill has been approved by either House. Whether or not we will have the opportunity of seeing action on this bill in the Senate depends on the Senate Judiciary Committee. As you know, it is at this writing deadlocked 9-9, which neither passes it out of committee nor defeats it.

You have a list of the members of this committee (Legislative bulletin dated 2/1/57). WE URGENTLY NEED letters, wires, phone calls, to the members of this committee asking them to give the members of the Senate the chance to debate and act on this bill and urging their support. (See Mrs. Hargraves' letter to the editor, Minneapolis Star, March 29.)

Will those Leagues who visited the Legislature (other than on the February 20th Legislative Day) send a report to the state office telling their estimate of the number who attended, and any comments on their experience they wish to make?

LEGISLATIVE The Senate Elections and Reapportionment Committee is in the process of amending the Bergerud Reapportionment Bill and until that is done, we cannot tell whether it is still an acceptable bill according to League standards. There will be an open hearing on the bill on Thursday evening, April 4th. Soon after that you will be receiving a legislative bulletin on reapportionment, if there is anything to report.

If the Senate Elections and Reapportionment Committee finishes the work on the Reapportionment bills Thursday night, Party Designation could come up at the committee meeting on April 8, 9 a.m.

DISCUSSION The film referred to in my March 8th letter "How to Conduct a Discussion" which may be rented for \$3.50 for a 3-day period from the Audio-Visual Department at the University, is also available from the Minneapolis Public Library, for 25¢ and a library card.

Only three Leagues have responded to our request for a sample copy of your Unit Report Forms. We know there must be more. Would you please send them to us so we can share them with other Leagues.

LOCAL CURRENT AGENDA Many of the Leagues have, during the year, given printed resource or background material on their local government item to their members. It may have been articles in the local League bulletin, a separate mimeographed sheet or sheets, an outline used by members at unit meetings, or any information gathered by your League on your local item,

The state Local Current Agenda committee would appreciate your sending in a copy of any material you have used for the state file. Other Leagues working on similar items may be able to use this information, as we feel that having this on file in the state office would facilitate the exchange of information. Could we have the material by April 15th, please? Also, would you please list any outside sources of information which you used in the preparation or study of your items?

"Methods of Election" - We have in the state office four copies of a booklet prepared by the Bloomington League on "Methods of Election." This is an excellent evaluation of the number of city councilmen, the length of their terms of office, the methods of nomination and the various methods of election. Any League interested may borrow a copy by writing or calling the state office. We recommend it to you.

HOPE WASHBURN AWARD The deadline for nominations for the Hope Washburn Award is April 15. We hope that each local League board will submit nominations and that many individual League members will do the same. Anyone in your League, some other League, or a state board member may be nominated. The January-February Voter carries full details, and the nomination form was enclosed in the February President's mailing. A number of persons have already been nominated - the significance of the award will be greatly enhanced by the number of nominations received.

MENTAL HEALTH The Minnesota Association for Mental Health has asked us to announce a Program Planning Workshop, May 1, at the Minneapolis Woman's Club, and to invite you to attend. See enclosed letter for details.

April 5, 1957

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Displays at State Convention. What has your League done this year to build public opinion for a constitutional convention? To improve the relationship of your League to your community? Have you had an unusual Voters Service program? Finance Drive? Have you done a good job of public education? Bring your displays to the State Convention so we may all share your ideas and applaud your successes. Will you let us know immediately what your space requirements will be so we can plan accordingly?

Prizes at State Convention. Prizes will be awarded at State Convention for the best job done by local League in: 1) building public opinion for a constitutional convention and 2) influencing the citizens of the community in any field of League work. These prizes will be awarded on the basis of the displays and the reports you send us of your outstanding accomplishment.. We'd like to receive these reports by May 1st.

ENCLOSURES

Delegates Credentials
Hotel Registration Card
Advance Registration and Reservation
What Every Delegate Should Know
Mental Health Letter and Card
List of Publications needed by LL Board

Sent 10 39 min Employer Assoc. - 2 more letters 1957
in answer

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

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

Federal 8-8791

March 29, 1957

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

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

Yours sincerely,

Basil Young

Mrs. Basil Young, President



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

STATEMENT OF

DONALD A. HOLMES

Before Senate Judiciary Committee
March 14, 1957
8:00 A. M.
Room 238, State Capitol

IDENTIFICATION.

Live at 4922 Aldrich Avenue South, Minneapolis 9.
Lawyer - about 27 years.
Chairman - Minnesota Citizens Constitutional Committee.
Chairman - Minnesota State Bar Association Committee
on Nonprofit Corporation Laws.
Member - Bar Association Committee on Business, Cor-
poration and Banking Laws.
Member - Bar Association Committee on Legislation.

QUESTION TO BE COVERED.

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

REMARKS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Respectfully yours,

Donald A. Holmes

MINNESOTA CITIZENS CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE

March 8, 1957

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DONALD A. HOLMES, Chairman
Minneapolis
O. J. JERDE, Vice Chairman
St. Cloud
ROGER B. PAGE, Vice Chairman
St. Paul
MRS. RUSSELL T. LUND, Secretary
Edina
MISS CELIA LOGAN, Treasurer
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MISS BARBARA STUHLER, Minneapolis
MISS JOYCE VOEKS, Minneapolis

7-17

Dear Friend:

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

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

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

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

C - Conservative L - Liberal Number - legislative district

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

Sincerely yours,

Donald A. Holmes
Donald A. Holmes
Chairman

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

Release: Wednesday, March 6,
or thereafter

League, Bipartisan Committee
Warn People to Guard Rights

Minnesotans were warned today, as a result of testimony at a legislative hearing, "not to let a smoke screen of side issues hide the basic fact that they have the right to vote on whether they want a convention to revise the state constitution". The warning was made by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota in consultation with the joint GOP-DFL legislative committee headed by P. Kenneth Peterson of Minneapolis and William Carlson of St. Paul. Calling a constitutional convention is in both party platforms.

"Opponents of the constitutional convention bill testifying at a House hearing have tried to switch the spotlight to many other issues," the statement said, "but not one has given a single real reason why the people should not be allowed to vote on having a convention.

"We advise those who believe in this right to tell their legislators immediately."

On the bipartisan committee are: GOP- Mrs. Leonard Wilson, Carlton; Senator Albert Quie, Dennison; Rep. Alf Bergerud, Edina; Mrs. C. E. Howard, Excelsior. DFL- Mrs. Marge Maki, St. Paul; Dr. C. W. McQuiggan, Marshall; Mrs. Betty Green, St. Louis Park; Gerald Dillon, Minneapolis.

Joining in issuing the statement were several persons who testified at the House hearing in favor of the constitutional convention bill. They are William Pearson, Ogilvie, master of the Minnesota State Grange; Donald Holmes, Minneapolis, chairman of the Minnesota Citizens Constitutional Committee; Mrs. Ellis Peilen, Minneapolis, state legislative chairman of the National Council of Jewish Women; George W. Lawson, St. Paul, active in the A.F.L.; Mrs. Graydon J. Kilborn, Minneapolis, Hennepin County Republican Workshop; Stanley Platt, Minneapolis; Mrs. Malcolm Hargraves, Rochester, constitutional convention chairman of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

Leg. - F2D2D 1957

FEB 28 1957

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15th and Washington Avenue S.E. Minneapolis 14, Minnesota
Federal 8-8791

February 28, 1957

Dear friend:

We know you treasure your basic rights as a citizen because of the interest you have expressed in good government.

There is a very real danger that one of the fundamental rights of citizens in a democracy -- that of deciding if and when their constitution should be reviewed -- may be denied by our state legislature. The critical moment is here, and your help is urgently needed to stop those who would deny the citizens of Minnesota their right to vote for, or against, the calling of a constitutional convention.

A word from you to your legislator* now, letting him know that you will not give up your right to vote on this issue, will be very influential. Every letter counts, every moment counts, and we hope you will write today.

It would be very helpful if you could send an additional letter, or a carbon of your letter to your legislator, to one of the following:

Senator Thomas P. Welch, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman

Representative Carl G. Hagland, House General Legislation Committee
Chairman

Representative Joe Karth, Author of the House bill, H.F.289

Senator Stanley Holmquist, Author of the Senate bill, S.F.135

All of the above persons may be addressed at the State Capitol,
St. Paul 1, Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Ethyl Young

(Mrs. Basil Young, President)

Alene Grossman

(Mrs. Norman Grossman, Chairman
Public Relations Committee)

*Your Legislator is:



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

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

February 28, 1957
Price: _____

TESTIMONY ON REAPPORTIONMENT

House Committee, Feb. 20, 1957

by Mrs. Stanley Kane, Reapportionment Lobbying Chairman

The League of Women Voters hopes its stand on reapportionment may be of some small value in the solution of this admittedly difficult problem: First, because we have studied it intensively, and we think from all viewpoints, for almost four years. Even more significantly, because we represent 5,500 members in 54 Leagues from communities of all sizes - in all parts of the state - from districts which are fairly represented, under-represented, and over-represented in this legislature. Their overwhelming consensus - not just a majority opinion - arrived at by equal participation of all Leagues, was:

1. Minnesota is in serious, even dire need, of immediate reapportionment because of the great inequities between our districts, and because true democracy and respect for constitutional law in this state suffer increasingly with each session that fails to meet this acid test of responsible self-government.

2. Our second conclusion was this: Our form of government demands equitable representation of all citizens in its legislative bodies. However, because of various differences between metropolitan and nonmetropolitan constituencies, true equilibrium of representation will be best preserved if our large urban center is content with some measure of under-representation.

3. Our third conclusion is that this problem, having grown more thorny and uncomfortable with each year, demands two solutions:

- (a) A statutory settlement to provide long overdue relief. You all know we are working for passage of H. F. 450 at this session. I shall not go into our reasons for support of this measure, which has already been fully explained to you.

We wish merely to explain that before deciding this bill was a good answer to Minnesota's problem, we analyzed it carefully; then talked - not to Mr. Bergerud - but to those people in Minnesota we knew to be most conversant with the problem: with political scientists and students who surely have no axe to grind; with lawyers; administrative officials; legislators in both houses and of both caucuses. We believe the bill is just, workable, practical, constitutional, providing wise measure of urban under-representation.

We cannot emphasize too strongly that under this bill the urban areas of Hennepin-Ramsey will be increased by only 7% of the total State representatives. These counties now have 22%; this bill gives them 29%; they should have 34%. We cannot see that this bill even faintly approaches the charge of urban domination with which rural areas are being frightened. Nor, on close analysis, can we see a change of political alignment from this bill. As a matter of fact, considering both houses together, this bill will change the status quo less than most compromise measures so far introduced in either house.

- (b) In addition to the statutory solution, provided by H. F. 450, (not in place of it) we hope the two houses of this legislature will be able to agree on an amendment which will solve justly and permanently the reapportionment problem in Minnesota.

Simultaneous Passage of Statute and Amendment

I know these are great expectations. But this double solution is based on good precedent - in this state and elsewhere.

Our last reapportionment in this state, that of 1913, was done on a statutory basis, coupled with simultaneous submission to the voters of an area-compromise approach.

The 1911 session of the legislature knew that the census figures of 1910 would be available by the next session. There was much feeling that the urban areas were growing so rapidly that some limitation was desirable. There was evidently no feeling that the constitution could be ignored in regard to reapportionment. Either it had to be changed or it had to be obeyed. The 1911 session first tried to effect a change. Authored by the ancestors of two men now in the legislature - Senator Duxbury, grandfather of Rep. Duxbury of Caledonia, and Senator Moonan, grandfather of Rep. Fitzgerald of New Prague - an amendment to limit any one county to seven senatorial seats, was submitted to the people in 1912. The amendment failed of passage. Accordingly the session of 1913, not being able to change the constitution, proceeded to obey it. It passed the reapportionment statute which still governs (or, might we humbly suggest, misgoverns) in this state. Having obeyed the constitution, they again, in good conscience, submitted to the voters the previous "7 Senators Bill," which again failed.

The simultaneous passage of a reapportionment bill and submission of a constitutional amendment also has precedent in other states. The Colorado legislature recently did likewise. Her constitution also calls for population representation in both houses and she is also troubled by a metropolitan center which contains 31% of her population. In 1953, when the census figures first became available, the legislature, having skipped 1940, felt reapportionment must now be done. That year and again two years later, constitutional amendments were submitted.

Reasons for Immediate Statutory Settlement

Why are we of the League of Women Voters hoping for a statutory correction of our inequities before an amendment is passed? And why are more voices joining with ours every day?

1. Because after 1960 statutory reapportionment will present an even more troublesome problem than at present.

2. Because, frankly, we do not think an amendment can be arrived at without great difficulty and perhaps many years of trial. We sat last session in all committee meetings in this house and in the senate. We came to feel that the so-called rural-urban split is no greater an obstacle to an amendment in this state than the split between the two houses. The Senate's solution is to reapportion itself on the basis of area (as in upper house of Congress) and put the House on a population basis.

Difficulties Associated with an Amendment

The House feels that if counties are to be given any consideration, then they must be the area chamber. The Senate the equally apportioned body. Nor, as you gentlemen know all too well, do you have ready time during a busy session for careful consideration of so difficult a problem. We have come to feel that perhaps only in a constitutional convention or in an especially appointed body, such as an Interim Commission, will such agreement be reached. This intra-legislative disagreement we see as the first stumbling block to a constitutional amendment.

The passage of a constitutional amendment on reapportionment we view as perhaps even more difficult. We know all too well that our amending process is so difficult that unless an amendment is unopposed by any considerable segment of our population it is doomed to defeat. It likewise has little chance of success unless it is backed with wide support, interested citizens groups, energy and often money.

Therefore we believe submission of an amendment is a waste of your effort, of state money, and of voter interest, unless it has been carefully worked out by knowledgeable members of both houses and by interests of both metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas.

League Stand on Amendment

The League of Women Voters is pledged to support two types of compromise:

One which would provide for area in one house, population in the other; if done not on the basis of set figures, which we do not believe belong in a constitution; but on a ratio plan to provide flexibility for future needs. It is quite possible also for a ratio plan to provide urban under-representation in both houses. This, indeed, we believe most practical.

The second type of compromise we are at present pledged to support is a plan to reapportion non-metropolitan areas on the basis of population and put a ceiling on urban representation in either or both houses.

Whatever the amendment approach adopted, we, and I'm sure you, would insist on some measure of enforcement so the present situation does not repeat itself. Six states with recent reapportioning legislation do this by giving reapportioning power originally to a commission; six others give it to a bi-partisan commission or an administrative committee - should the legislature fail in its duty. We feel this enforcement measure is both more efficient and more economical than calling a special session.

In other words, I think we have all come to feel that reapportionment must not only be fair, it must be periodic. When districts go so long unchanged as ours, it is only natural that legislators come to feel they have a vested interest in these districts.

We hope and believe the 1957 legislature realizes that under our constitution, no one has a vested interest in any legislative seat but that we all, legislator and citizen alike, do have a vested interest in making representative government work in this state.

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

February 18, 1957

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

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

Federal 8-8791

December 1956

Dear Legislator:

As the 1957 session of the Legislature approaches, the League of Women Voters of Minnesota wants you to know that we are fully aware of the many, difficult problems which confront you. We know, too, that the pressures you are subjected to are great. We would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation -- shared by many Minnesotans -- of your public service as a member of the state Legislature.

Our organization has been working for constitutional revision for nine years. Much of our study and research has been recently put together in the booklet, "The State You're In." We have attempted to demonstrate how Minnesota's century-old Constitution stands in the way of responsible and responsive government and to emphasize the citizen's role as Constitution-maker in our democracy.

As you are well aware, this problem is one of national concern. This concern was recently expressed by President Eisenhower's Commission on Intergovernmental Relations when it reported, "that most states would benefit from a fundamental review of their state constitutions to make sure that they provide for vigorous and responsible government, not forbid it."

Members of the League of Women Voters feel that this "fundamental review" can be accomplished only by a Constitutional Convention. In this we share the view of recent governors, both political parties, the Legislature's own Constitutional Commission of 1947-48, and the many, many citizens who voted overwhelmingly in support of an amendment in 1954 which cleared the way for a Constitutional Convention.

We hope that the material in "The State You're In" will be helpful to you in your consideration of favorable action for the Constitutional Convention bill in this coming session.

Very truly yours,

Doris Guthrie

Mrs. Donald Guthrie,
Legislative Chairman



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

Separate File
leg.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

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

Federal 8-8791

October 31, 1956

TO: LOCAL LEAGUE PRESIDENTS

FROM: Mrs. Basil Young, President

Are you "hanging over the ropes?" I can readily understand and sympathize with you if you are - what with voters service, membership and finance drives, conferences with Mrs. Horner, PLUS the terrific public relations and book promotion job we have asked you to do.

The time and attention we have given to promoting state program in preparation for the legislative session reminds us - or those of us who can remember back that far - of the Dumbarton Oaks project when League members throughout the country went all-out for that campaign to start the U.N.

The League is an action group, and at no other time is it more alive, effective and inspired than when, through its program, it is demonstrating how informed and active citizens participate in government. I want you to know how deeply every member of the State Board appreciates your going this extra mile with us. I know what this additional responsibility means to every harried president and board, trying to fit it into an already very busy Fall schedule, but I am confident it will pay off. "The Book" is being enthusiastically received inside and outside the League, and orders are coming in fast. (One senator ordered 100 copies.) Mrs. Horner told us "This was the biggest thing done in the country on a state publication."

What it will now take is concentrated, sustained attention, faithful plugging away at selling the books, giving them away, talking to clubs and everyone who will listen. Our next most immediate concern is our --

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

The constituents hold the key to their legislators' vote.
Let this be the guiding light of all our legislative work this year.

The Legislative Committee has recently mailed a copy of "Well, What D'Ya Know, Minnesota Has a Constitution," and the Legislative Program (Insert to lobby by letter), to all senators and candidates for representative. After the election we shall mail a copy of "The State You're In" to each senator and newly elected representative. Each legislator will then have the League program. As his constituent, and persuader of other constituents, we know you will do everything within your power to get his "Yes" vote. The ball is in the field - it needs to be carried over the goal line.

Legislative work will follow this general plan. The state Legislative Committee will follow legislation on League program and report to you on the content of bills, dates for hearing and votes, and issue "time for action" calls. We shall suggest plans for promoting action on those measures by the membership, the community and through personal contact with legislators. We shall arrange for you a Legislative Day.



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

Instead of an individual tour for each League, we shall have a Legislative Day for groups of Leagues. Details will be in the next president's letter.

Success will be determined by the degree of initiative taken by local Leagues in making plans for its members and constituents and accepting responsibility for doing the bulk of the lobbying to influence their legislators' votes. As one senator told us: "It is not enough to tell your legislator; you have to tell others to tell him. I pay a lot more attention to a constituent who comes to me and says: 'Look, what about this constitutional revision - how come I can't vote on it? What's it all about?,' than I do to pressure lobbying by a group at the Capitol."

In our zeal for program, we cannot of course neglect our other responsibilities:

VOTERS SERVICE Judging from your letters, bulletins, newspaper reports, and the material you are ordering, you are doing a satisfying and exciting job on voters service. We are looking forward to detailed reports.

FINANCE The finance committee has long felt the need of tying together all of our tools and information that are needed to carry out a successful finance drive. Enclosed is an OUTLINE FOR FUND RAISING which we hope fills this need and will prove helpful to you.

CHALK TALK The Edina League has prepared -- and presented several times--
"The Discontented a very clever and easy to give chalk talk on the story of
Constituent" the 1857 Constitutional Convention, and the faults of our
 present, many times amended, Minnesota Constitution. Typed
copies are available, on a loan basis, from the state office. If there is enough demand, it will be mimeographed.

"WELL, WHAT D'YA KNOW... More than 12,000 copies have been ordered by local Leagues.
MINNESOTA HAS A If you haven't entered the Sales Contest, do it! (See
CONSTITUTION." page 4 of Instruction Sheets on Selling Campaign for "Well,
 What D'Ya Know...") A postcard is enclosed so that we may
know how things are going with you.

LOBBY BY LETTER The price of "Lobby by Letter" has been adjusted downward.
 It will be: Cover, 15¢; Insert, 15¢. The insert, after
all, is the important part, and this has now been reduced so that more members may have this excellent digest of the state program. Please change your Publications Catalogs accordingly.

MINNEAPOLIS STAR We are all invited to attend the Women's Press Conference
AND TRIBUNE sponsored by the Minneapolis Star and Tribune. It will
PRESS CONFERENCE be held at the Leamington Hotel from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 on November 9, 1956. To secure tickets, address a request
postal to Press Conference, Minneapolis Star and Tribune, Minneapolis 15, or call
FE 3-3111.

ENCLOSURES: Outline for Fund Raising - Minn#19-10/56-10¢
 Sample Ballot
 Postcard to return
 Letter re Nominations

LAST MINUTE FLASH There are three excellent radio programs on Constitutional
 Revision planned for Station KUOM on Tuesdays, 11:15 a.m. --
"Listen with the League," Barbara Stuhler interviewing.
November 20 - Statement of the Problem
November 27 - Interview with Legislator who is opposed.
December 4 - Interview with an eminent supporter.

June 7 July 56

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA
University of Minnesota, (TSMC), 15th & Washington Avenue S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Federal 8-8791

INFORMATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR LEGISLATORS

Between now and January is the best time to get to know your legislator and to lobby in person. As a lobbyist you render a service to legislators. You supply him with needed information and you let him know his constituents' opinion. At the same time you put the League on record in hopes of influencing the legislator's vote and you make friends for the League.

Your contacts with legislators may be as varied as your League wishes to make them. You may send letters, make personal calls, invite him to your meeting to tell you how other people in the community feel about constitutional revision. Below are some suggestions for these contacts.

Pre-Primary Contact

Send a

1. A friendly letter to incumbent legislators.
2. Congratulatory letter to new candidates on filing. Try to get a letter off to each candidate as soon as possible after the filings close on July 23.

For both types of letters see samples attached. Please personalize these letters according to your local situation.

Offer material

After the primary, the state office is mailing directly to all senators and representative candidates this kit of materials:

The State You're In (May, 1956)

Kit on Continuing Responsibilities

Suggest a personal interview

Give him additional information on constitutional revision. Do not ask him to take a stand on constitutional revision at this time. Assume that when he knows all the facts he naturally will be for it.

SENATORS VOTE ON CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION BILL 1955

We suggest that the Leagues with "no" votes give special attention to promoting a Constitutional Convention in their district and to influencing their senators' vote. We suggest that the Leagues with "yes" votes congratulate their senators and ask that they help create understanding of this important issue in their community.

Where there is more than one League in a district, we suggest that the Leagues get together and try a joint promotional project in their district.

Constitutional Convention Bill

Senate votes: 40 no 27 yes

27 no votes in districts where we have Leagues.

13 no votes in districts where we do not have a League.

18 yes votes in districts where we have a League.

9 yes votes in districts where we do not have a League.

NO		YES	
4	Rochester	16	New Richland
5	Austin		Owatonna
	Kasson		Waseca
7	Wells	20	South St. Paul
10	Jackson		West St. Paul
11	Worthington	22	Hutchinson
13	Granite Falls	23	Olivia
	Tracy	28	Minneapolis
14	New Ulm	29	" "
17	New Prague	32	" "
19	Red Wing	35	" "
24	Granite Falls	37	St. Paul
27	Buffalo	40	" "
30	Minneapolis	41	" "
31	" "		North St. Paul
33	" "		White Bear Township
34	" "	42	St. Paul
36	Bloomington		Arden Hills
	Deephaven		Falcon Heights
	Edina		Roseville
	Excelsior	43	Afton-Lakeland
	Hopkins		Birchwood
	Mound		Mahtomedi
	Richfield	44	Anoka
	St. Louis Park		Circle Pines
	Wayzata		Columbia Heights
	Golden Valley	50	Battle Lake
38	St. Paul		Fergus Falls
39	" "	60	Hibbing
45	St. Cloud	61	Virginia
47	Alexandria	63	Park Rapids
49	Moorhead		
52	Cass Lake		
53	Brainerd		
57	Duluth		
58	" "		
59	" "		
62	Bemidji		

SAMPLE LETTER TO SENATORS

(The state senators serve until 1958. They will not run for re-election this fall.)

Dear Senator _____:

We take this opportunity to tell you that the League of Women Voters of Minnesota supports the following program:

Revision of the State Constitution of the State of Minnesota

We feel this can be best accomplished by the calling of a Constitutional Convention.

Reapportionment

Fair Employment Practices Commission

Party Designation for Legislators

Civil Service System

Since these are all important issues in Minnesota government, our state office will mail you information on them. We hope it will be of value to you.

(for proponents)

We are very pleased that you voted for the Constitutional Convention Bill last legislative session. We hope you will do so again. We also invite you to join us in our campaign to secure better understanding of this issue in our community.

(for opponents)

We know that in the past you have had reservations concerning constitutional revision; however, we are hopeful that in the last two years you have found some merit in this proposal.

Sincerely,

SAMPLE LETTER TO BE SENT TO ALL NEW CANDIDATES FILING FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Dear Mr. _____:

Congratulations on your filing for the office of representative from the _____ legislative district. We need qualified citizens in public office and we appreciate the sacrifices in time, effort and money you will make during your campaign.

We take this opportunity to tell you that the League of Women Voters of Minnesota supports the following program:

Revision of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota

We feel this can be best accomplished by the calling of a Constitutional Convention.

Reapportionment

Fair Employment Practices Commission

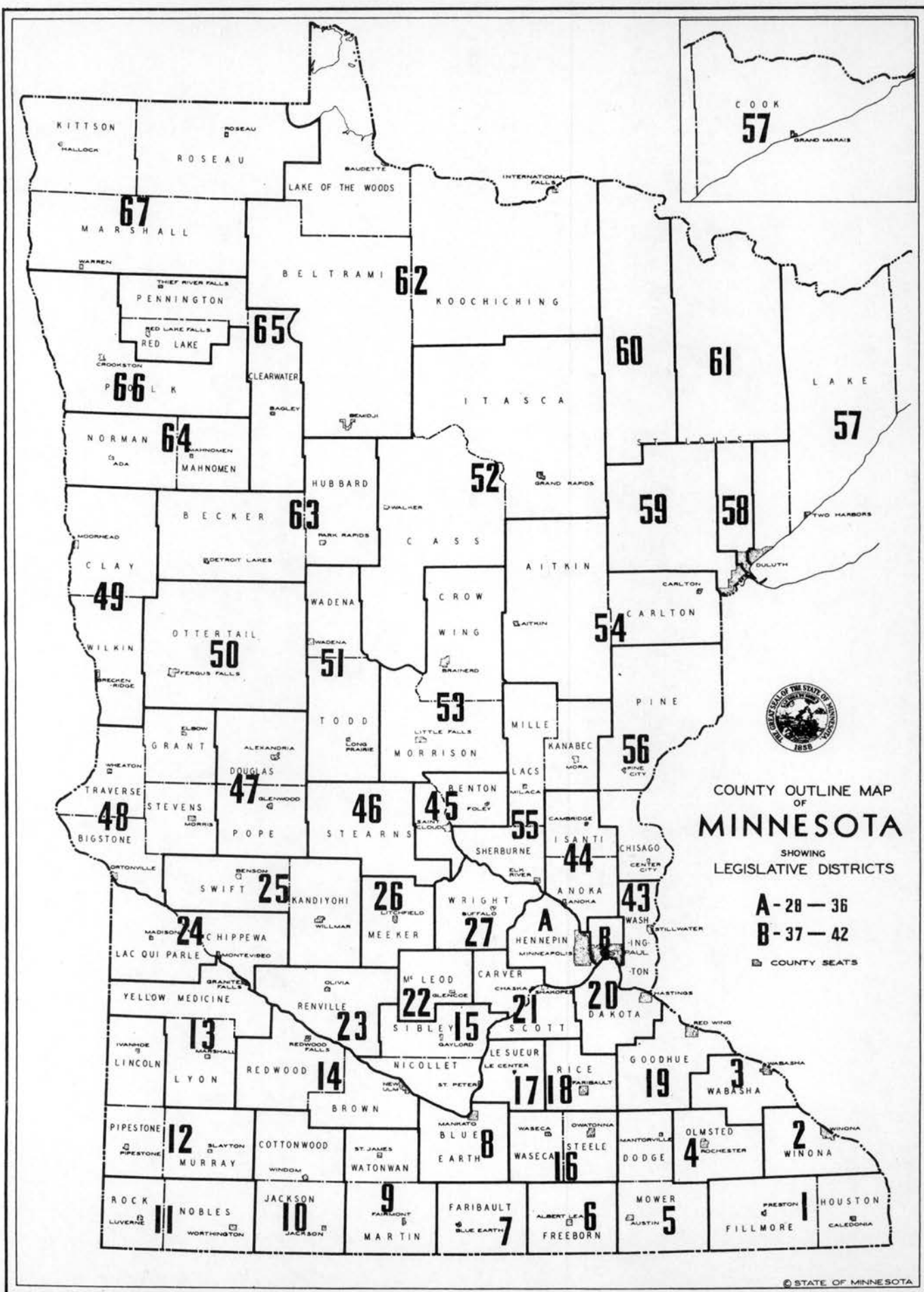
Party Designation for Legislators

Civil Service System

Since these are all important issues in Minnesota government, we offer you informational material on them. We hope it will be of value to you.

Sincerely,

(The letter to incumbent legislators can be the same, except for the last paragraph. You can also say that material on these issues will be mailed to them by the state office.)



LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF LOCAL LEAGUES IN MINNESOTA

LEGISLATIVE

4 Rochester
 5 Austin
 Kasson
 7 Wells
 10 Jackson
 11 Worthington
 13 Granite Falls
 Tracy
 14 New Ulm
 16 New Richland
 Owatonna
 Waseca
 17 New Prague
 19 Red Wing
 20 South St. Paul
 20 West St. Paul
 22 Hutchinson
 23 Olivia
 24 Granite Falls
 27 Buffalo
 28-35 Minneapolis
 36S Bloomington
 Deephaven
 Edina
 Excelsior
 Hopkins
 Mound
 Richfield
 St. Louis Park
 Wayzata
 36N Golden Valley
 37-42 St. Paul
 41 North St. Paul
 White Bear Township
 42N Arden Hills
 Falcon Heights
 Roseville
 43 Afton-Lakeland
 Birchwood
 Mahtomedi
 44 Anoka
 Circle Pines
 Columbia Heights
 45 St. Cloud
 47 Alexandria
 49 Moorhead
 50 Battle Lake
 Fergus Falls
 52 Cass Lake
 53 Brainerd
 57-59 Duluth
 60 Hibbing
 61 Virginia
 62 Bemidji
 63 Park Rapids

CONGRESSIONAL

I Austin
 Kasson
 New Richland
 Owatonna
 Red Wing
 Rochester
 Waseca
 II Hutchinson
 Jackson
 New Prague
 New Ulm
 South St. Paul
 Wells
 West St. Paul*
 III Afton-Lakeland
 Anoka
 Birchwood
 Bloomington
 Circle Pines
 Columbia Heights
 Deephaven
 Edina
 Excelsior
 Golden Valley
 Hopkins
 Mahtomedi
 Minneapolis
 Mound
 Richfield
 St. Louis Park
 Wayzata
 IV Arden Hills
 Falcon Heights
 North St. Paul
 Roseville
 St. Paul
 White Bear Township
 V Minneapolis
 VI Brainerd
 Buffalo
 Cass Lake
 Park Rapids
 St. Cloud
 VII Alexandria
 Granite Falls
 Olivia
 Tracy
 Worthington
 VIII Duluth
 Hibbing
 Virginia*
 IX Battle Lake
 Bemidji
 Fergus Falls
 Moorhead

(23 Legis. Dist. with no Leagues - 1,2,3,6,8,9,12,15,18,21,25,26,46,48,49,51,54,55,56,64,65,66,67.

There are 54 local and provisional Leagues in Minnesota with 5100 members. *Provisional

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

Release: Wednesday, April 10
or thereafter

League President Attacks
State Senate Misuse
of Committee System

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

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

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

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

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

March 29, 1957

VIA AIR MAIL

The Minneapolis Star and Tribune
Minneapolis, Minn.

To the Editor:

One of the principal arguments advanced against the constitutional convention bill is that we can save time, money and energy if we revise our constitution by the amendment method. Supporters of revision by amendment point with pride to the passage of seven amendments in the last two elections. Supporters of revision by convention also point with pride to the passage of these amendments. This expression of citizen concern for improvement in our basic law is certainly gratifying. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota was, for many years, the only state-wide organization providing amendment information to the voters. Other organizations like the bar and banking associations will perform this service only for those amendments in which they have an interest. But the fact remains - amendments are hard to pass. Since 1899, only about one-third of all amendments submitted to the voters have been accepted.

The time, energy and money devoted to attracting voter attention to the importance of amendments are considerable. Even more, the state legislature, confronted with over 3,000 bills to pass upon in 90 days, simply does not have the time to give the kind of consideration necessary for revision of our basic law. Already, in this session, some 52 constitutional amendments have been introduced into the House and Senate which revise some part of each of the articles of the Minnesota constitution. But - how many will we have a chance to vote on in 1958?

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota is now and has been for constitutional improvement by whatever means. However, the totals of legislative time and study, organizational time, money and energy, citizen time and study overwhelm us. If 52 amendments are now being considered by the legislature, how many years will it take for us to vote on each of these and the others which are sure to be introduced. The League cannot escape the conclusion that revision by convention will save legislators and citizens alike time, money and energy. The League cannot avoid the conclusion that a constitutional convention is the most efficient, economical and just way of achieving the constitutional improvement which we all seek.

Mrs. Basil Young
President

✓ Sent D 341 Minn
Employer Assoc.

Reg. F 2 D 2 D 1957

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15th and Washington Avenue S.E. Minneapolis 14, Minnesota
Federal 8-8791

Who ans. was
March 8 letter

March 29, 1967

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

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

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young, President



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

THE MINNESOTA VOTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

VOL. 35

September-October, 1956

NO. 2

THE 4 F'S OF A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION FALLACY, FANTASY, FEAR, AND FACT

AS A MATTER OF FACT

Test yourself on facts and common fallacies about constitutional revision.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. There is no overt, organized opposition to constitutional revision in Minnesota. | T F |
| 2. It is easy to make any necessary changes in the constitution by amendment. | T F |
| 3. All four amendments submitted to the people in 1954 passed. | T F |
| 4. A constitutional convention in Minnesota would cost millions of dollars. | T F |
| 5. The people would have the right to vote on any constitution revised by a convention. | T F |
| 6. Legislators may not be delegates to a constitutional convention. | T F |
| 7. There is very little support for constitutional revision in Minnesota. | T F |
| 8. There have been a good many constitutional conventions held in the United States. | T F |
| 9. There is no demonstration of the need for constitutional revision in Minnesota. | T F |

Here are the answers:

1. Many persons believe that the railroads oppose constitutional revision. However, the representative of the railroads at the legislature has stated many times that he represents only himself in opposing the bill to call a constitutional convention. No organization has publicly stated any opposition to this measure. The statement is TRUE.
2. This may have been true prior to 1899 when Minnesota had an easy amending process. Since that time, when the present difficult amending process took effect, only 32 out of 96, or 33% of all amendments submitted to the voters, have been accepted. Many amendments have to be submitted several times before they are finally approved. FALSE.
3. In 1956, the banking interests in the state campaigned vigorously for one amendment, the bar association for another, the League of Women Voters and the political parties for a third, and there was no organized opposi-

(Continued on page 2, column 1)

AS A MATTER OF OPINION

It is very difficult to find arguments against constitutional revision in print. A letter containing many of these arguments, written by M. J. Galvin, dated February 16, 1955, and put on every legislator's desk in the last legislative session, has been made available to the League. M. J. Galvin is a former state Senator from Winona and is now serving as legislative representative for the railroad industry. He has been heard to say on several occasions that he speaks only for himself, not for the railroads. Here are some arguments quoted from Mr. Galvin's letter, and another frequently heard argument, followed by "answers." Some of the other arguments which Mr. Galvin advances are answered in adjoining columns.

... it's a matter of opinion

M. J. Galvin: "... we have had approximately 100 years of living under a good, fundamental, basic law and our state has prospered and our people are not unhappy with our constitution and they don't want it scrapped. There is no great necessity for calling such a constitutional convention."

W. Brook Graves, Senior Specialist in American Government, Legislative Reference Service, Library of Congress: "One's estimate of the urgency of the need for constitutional revision depends, it may be supposed, upon one's view of the importance of the states in the American system of government. If he believes that the states are of small concern and that the federal government ought to do everything, then of course, revision of the state constitutions is unnecessary. The longer some of them remain in their present form, the easier it will be to further undermine the powers of the states in question, and the more difficult it will be for them to function effectively in a modern world. If, on the other hand, one believes that the states have a job to do and that they ought to do it, then revision of the constitutions of many states becomes not only highly desirable but urgently necessary."

(Continued on page 2, column 2)

AS A MATTER OF FACT (Continued)

tion to any of these four. This happy combination of circumstances will not likely be repeated each time the people of Minnesota vote on amendments. TRUE.

4. The convention in New Jersey took less than 90 days time and cost \$330,000. The Missouri convention lasted for a year and cost \$697,145. The New Jersey convention cost less because delegates were not paid (they received \$10 a day for expenses) and because, like Minnesota, much of the spare work had been done by a commission to study and recommend needed constitutional changes. Judging from the experiences of other states, the statement is FALSE.

5. This right, implied in the Minnesota constitution, was clearly stated by a constitutional amendment passed by the people of Minnesota in 1954. TRUE.

6. The same amendment which passed in 1954 made it possible for legislators to run and, if elected, serve as delegates. FALSE.

7. The Democratic-Farmer-Labor and Republican parties, the League of Women Voters, the CIO-AFL, the Republican Workshop, the State Grange (to name a few) have publicly endorsed the calling of a constitutional convention. Many newspaper editors throughout the state have editorialized in favor of this measure. Every governor since 1948, when the Minnesota Constitutional Commission submitted its report, has urged enactment of this legislation. FALSE.

8. There have been almost 200 constitutional conventions in the 48 states. Only 18 states operate under their original constitutions. Minnesota is one. Of all the Mid-western states, only four operate under original constitutions. Minnesota is one. Only 10 states operate under state constitutions that have been allowed to age longer than Minnesota's without complete revision. TRUE.

9. The legislature itself first recognized the need by its appointment in 1947 of a commission to study the question. In 1948, the Minnesota Constitutional Commission reported to the legislature that major changes were needed in 34 sections and minor changes in 78; six new sections were also recommended. By unanimous resolution, this legislative commission recommended that the changes be made by a convention. Governors, legislators and distinguished jurists have documented many areas where change would be eminently desirable. FALSE.

Published Bi-monthly by

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15th AND WASHINGTON AVE. S.E., MINNEAPOLIS 14, MINNESOTA

Mrs. BAIL YOUNG.....President

ELEANOR SALSBURY.....Editor

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Minneapolis, Minnesota under the act of March 3, 1879

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

AS A MATTER OF OPINION (Continued)

... it's a matter of opinion

M. J. Galvin: "... no constitutional convention should be called now because of the reform proposals that have been strongly urged and which have swept two or three of our states. I principally refer to the changes adopted in Missouri and New Jersey where the corrupt Hague and Pendergast machines were successful in putting over a new constitution by means of a constitutional convention which concentrated the power in the governor of the state."

Charles Edison, former Governor of New Jersey: "An important part of the credit for Mr. Hague's permanent eclipse should go to the new constitution. In the first place, the governor can be more independent of local politicians than he used to be because they have less opportunity through the legislature to deprive him of the control that a responsible chief executive must have over state administration." (See *The New Jersey Story*.)

(Ed.'s Note: A careful examination of the published literature on the Missouri constitutional convention reveals no mention of any part played by the Pendergast machine either in support or opposition to the convention or a new constitution for Missouri. A list of supporters of the convention appears in *The Missouri Story*.)

... it's a matter of opinion

M. J. Galvin: "A third argument advanced as a reason for having a constitutional convention is to provide for a different method of selection of judges or their retention in office once they are selected. This is my greatest objection to calling a constitutional convention."

(Ed.'s Note: Mr. Galvin probably refers here to what is known as the "Missouri Plan," which is the method of selection recommended by the American Bar Association and was also recommended, in somewhat modified form, by the Minnesota Constitutional Commission.)

James M. Douglas, former Associate Justice, Supreme Court of Missouri: "It has been pointed out that a politician may ordinarily make a good judge if he can stop being a politician when he goes on the bench, but the usual system for election requires a judge to be a politician in order to remain a judge. In this respect, we feel we have met that problem. I can safely say that the Courts of Missouri have never been held in greater confidence than they are today."

... it's a matter of opinion

M. J. Galvin: "A fourth argument why the advocates of a constitutional convention say it should be called is that the now constituted constitutional officers of the state should not be elected and that the ballot should be

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

AS A MATTER OF OPINION (Continued)

made shorter and that these should be appointed by the governor. . . . We do not need any more concentration of power in the chief executive of our state. We need the freely elected state auditor, state treasurer, secretary of state and attorney general . . ."

Recommendations of the *Minnesota Efficiency in Government Commission* (Little Hoover Commission), Bradshaw Mintner, Chairman: "Administrative authority as well as responsibility should be centered in the Chief Executive of the State. This provides the unity of command so essential to administrative coordination, supervision and direction. A strong executive is the crux of any successful organization, public or private. Dispersion of executive power creates confusion, irresponsibility and weak and wasteful government. The answer to fear of a strong executive is to be found in stronger Judicial and Legislative branches of government. . . . Adherence to this principle requires a short ballot and the elimination of the election of independent administrative officers, thus avoiding sources of friction in the conduct of the state administration and fixing complete responsibility for executive action in the Governor's office. It likewise simplifies the ballot for the voter and focuses the spotlight of public attention on the Governor's office."

... it's a matter of opinion

(Ed.'s Note: A frequently heard argument is that a new constitution would cause confusion and increased litigation in the courts.)

Leroy E. Matson, Associate Justice, the Supreme Court of Minnesota. "It is my considered opinion that the adoption of a new Constitution for the State of Minnesota will cause neither confusion nor increased litigation. A new Constitution, because it has been drafted to meet present-day needs, gives materially less occasion for litigation to determine its meaning and scope than does an old Constitution. . . . Chief Justice Vanderbilt of New Jersey states that the adoption of a new Constitution in that state brought about the simplification and clarification of constitutional provisions which eliminated much of the need for resorting to court actions to determine what may validly be done under the Constitution. This eminent jurist found that the new Constitution did not in any manner increase the litigation load of either the trial or the appellate courts with respect to constitutional or other questions."

"Chief Justice Laurance M. Hyde of Missouri wrote to me some time ago that a survey conducted by the University of Missouri Law Review showed that the adoption of a new Constitution in that state had reduced rather than increased constitutional litigation."

(Continued, next column)

PENNY WISE-ACRES

One of the most commonly heard arguments against a constitutional convention is that it would be expensive and the state cannot afford it. In one sense, it is a hard question to answer because no one can say for sure what it would cost. On the other hand, any charge that it would cost "millions of dollars" is ridiculous.

Let's look at the record. If the Minnesota legislature limits the time of the convention as the New Jersey legislature did, this would keep costs down. New Jersey's constitutional convention lasted less than 90 days and cost \$330,000. Missouri did not limit its convention; it lasted a year and the cost was correspondingly greater, \$679,145.

Now these are just convention costs. There are other expenses involved in the holding of a constitutional convention. There is the time of the legislature spent in consideration of the issue; the question must be printed on a ballot in a general election; delegates must campaign (not, of course, at taxpayers' expense); there are the costs of the election; and after the convention itself, the voters vote "yes" or "no" on the proposed constitution at another general election. (It should be noted that since the voting on the issues of the convention itself and the proposed constitution must, by law, occur at general elections, there would be no special election costs. This holds expenses to a minimum. Charges that special election costs would be part of a constitutional convention are not true.) Obviously, overall costs are hard to estimate.

Those who oppose a constitutional convention usually do not deny that the constitution needs revision—they argue, however, that it is cheaper to make these changes by amendment. But neither are amendments free to the taxpayers of the state. Representative E. J. Chilgren, Little Forks, estimated at a recent meeting of the Legislative Advisory Committee that the printing and publicizing (as required by law) of the three amendments in 1956 will cost \$180,000 to \$200,000. The local costs of general elections total around \$231,060. This is figured on the basis of pay, at an average of \$12 a day, for five judges and clerks in each precinct (\$60), for each of the 3,851 precincts in Minnesota. The Secretary of State estimates that amendment costs represents $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the cost of election. Taking the conservative $\frac{1}{2}$ of \$231,060—the local election total—plus the conservative \$180,000, it can be estimated that the three amendments at the 1956 election will cost the taxpayers \$226,212.

Now, these are only for printing, publicizing and

(Continued on page 4, column 1)

"... The experience of other states has been that existing statutes are not challenged any more frequently under a new Constitution than they would have been under the old Constitution."

THE MISSOURI STORY—1945 A.D.

An amendment to the Missouri constitution of 1875, adopted in 1920, provided for a referendum on the question, "Shall there be a convention to revise and amend the constitution?" in 1921, and every 20 years thereafter. The vote was favorable in 1921, but of the 21 amendments proposed by the constitutional convention of 1922-23, only six, the least important, were adopted by the voters. This defeat resulted largely from the failure to inform the voters adequately about the proposed changes.

The desirability of modernizing the Missouri constitution was generally recognized by persons in public life, and agitation for revision began again in 1940, in anticipation of the 1942 ballot issue. This interest received a real boost from the annual conference of the National Municipal League held in St. Louis in 1941. The problem of constitutional revision was emphasized and publicized with the unveiling of the League's fourth edition of *The Model State Constitution*. At that time, a statewide Committee for the Revision of the Missouri Constitution was organized.

Some expressions of fear that a convention would be radical were heard. However, as one writer noted, "... these fears proved groundless and were not heard after work on the document began." The convention question was approved in 1942 by a vote of 366,018 to 265,294.

At a special election in April 1943, 83 delegates were chosen. The constitution provided for nomination by

PENNY WISE-ACRES (Continued)

processing the amendments at the election. This figure does not include the time of the legislature in considering the proposed amendments; it does not include the money spent by legislative interim commissions working between sessions, which often came up with proposed amendments; it does not take into account the fact that only 32 of the last 96 amendments submitted to the people have been adopted—even popular, widely supported, noncontroversial amendments must be submitted over and over again before being accepted. Surely, one cannot offer any proof that the long, uncertain process of amending the constitution will be less expensive than the holding of a constitutional convention. In fact, all available figures point to the opposite conclusion.

The real question, of course, in making constitutional changes is not "How much do we spend?" but, "How much do we spend wastefully?" and, "How much can we save by spending?" In other words, "What gives us the most for our money?"

Officials estimate that the savings of reform in one department alone (new department of revenue) in Missouri are over a million dollars a year. The savings made by court reorganization in New Jersey paid for her con-

two major parties of one delegate in each of the 34 Senatorial districts. Delegates-at-large could be nominated by petition. The League of Women Voters of Missouri put 15 names on the ballot by this method—eight were subsequently endorsed by both parties and all 15 at-large delegates were elected. One-fourth of the delegates were recognized leaders in the sections of the state which they represented; 41 were lawyers; there were 17 businessmen, 7 farmers, 7 newspaper editors, 4 teachers, 2 labor executives and 2 housewives (24 were or had been members of the state legislature). As the convention and the delegates labored on, the *Kansas City Times* enthusiastically reported, "The delegates are so good, it is hard to explain how they got there."

The convention convened in September, 1943. The committees of the convention held public hearings for several months to hear the 377 proposals put before them. Three more months were devoted to detailed consideration of these proposals, comparing them to the present Missouri constitution and to other state constitutions. Each committee then drafted and submitted a report to the full convention for final consideration. The constitution was adopted by the convention in September, 1944, one year after it began its work. It had cost \$697,145. The new proposed constitution retained much of the good of the 1875 constitution; necessary and significant changes were incorporated in a document some 11,000 words shorter than the old one.

Then came the campaign for ratification by the people. The chief opponents, according to one observer, were "small loan interests whose monopoly in this lending field would be broken by the constitution's approval, and state and local politicians who feared the loss of patronage and jobs." The chief arguments used to influence Missouri's citizens to vote against the proposed constitution were: 1) negroes and whites would attend the same schools, 2) taxes would be increased, and 3) it was unfair to men in the armed services to adopt a new constitution in their absence.

But the opposition had something to contend with. Support was given to the new document by a former Senator, then Vice President Harry S. Truman, all six living ex-governors, the present governor, heads of Republican and Democratic state committees, the three statewide farm organizations, the teachers' association, organized industry, organized labor, chambers of commerce, organizations of doctors and lawyers, the League

(Continued on page 5, column 1)

vention immediately; savings in efficiency are incalculable.

Revision by amendment is snail-pace reform: Is revision by convention too high a price to pay not just for "good" government but for the "best" possible government? Revision by convention will help make that "best" government possible for our time.

THE NEW JERSEY STORY—1947 A.D.

In 1941, with the inaugural address of Governor Edison, Democrat, (son of the inventor), the New Jersey campaign for constitutional change began in earnest. The cause had its ups and downs—a new constitution (based on the recommendations of the Commission on Revision of the New Jersey Constitution and submitted by the legislature) was soundly defeated at the polls in 1944.

In 1946, Governor Driscoll, Republican, made clear in his inaugural address that revision of the constitution of 1844 was the number one goal of his administration. The Republicans controlled the state. As one observer put it, "The Republicans had long advocated revision, and they welcomed the opportunity to carry it out." The Democrats, too, supported the convention idea.

If constitutional revision in New Jersey had its supporters, it had its opponents too. Governor Edison has described the opponents as:

"(1) the political bosses and the whole breed of machine politicians of both parties,

"(2) special groups or interests who enjoyed advantages under the old constitution which they feared they might lose if a constitution were written by a representative body of their fellow citizens to meet present-day needs of the entire state, and

"(3) congenitally nervous or fearful people who in 1919 saw a Bolshevik in any stranger who might come down the street, or in the 1950's identify as a Communist anyone whose political ideas they don't quite understand or approve."

Governor Edison concluded, "These three groups are different in many ways but they have one significant thing in common. None of them really believes in democracy."

But the supporters gathered together in the New Jersey Committee for Constitutional Revision made it clear to the natural enemies of revision that they would

THE MISSOURI STORY—1945 (Continued)

of Women Voters, the Missouri Municipal League. It was supported by 106 newspapers out of 123 polled.

In February 1945, the proposed constitution became the constitution of Missouri by a two to one favorable vote of the people, 312,032 to 185,685.

And the results? One eminent student of the Missouri political scene put it succinctly and with conviction, "Viewing the situation in retrospect, the conclusion seems warranted that perhaps never before in the history of Missouri government have so many constructive improvements been adopted and put into effect in our governmental system within such a remarkably short period of time."

not be denied. Things began to move fast. "By 1947," to quote Governor Edison again, "even Mayor Hague decided to make a virtue of necessity and acquire what credit he could by getting belatedly on the bandwagon." The people of New Jersey approved the convention by a five to one vote and elected 81 delegates (the same number as members of the House and Senate). There were 54 Republicans, 23 Democrats, and four independents serving as delegates—25 were or had been members of the state legislature.

In less than 90 days, the convention ground out a new constitution. It adjourned two days before the deadline of September 12, after voting favorably on its proposed constitution, 77 to 1. It had spent \$330,000 out of the \$350,000 appropriated. The new constitution was adopted by the people of New Jersey on November 4, 1947, by a vote of 659,944 to 189,116.

And what were the results of the constitutional convention? Governor Driscoll was able to point to some millions of dollars of savings over a period of years resulting from administrative reorganization which followed the outline of the new New Jersey Constitution. The editor of the Trenton (N.J.) *Times* has said, "But the results are well worth the effort. The knowledge that we have in New Jersey today a governor who has the authority to do his job, the knowledge that we have reliable courts, giving speedy and equal justice, the pride in state government that is equipped to do its job, these are achievements that give more satisfaction than can be readily measured."

THE MINNESOTA STORY—2057 A.D.

A Fable for Moderns

Once upon a time—100 years ago, to be precise—there were 48 self-governing states in America. They now number 47. Parts of Minnesota, a former state bounded by North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa and Wisconsin, were absorbed by those four states, as the state government atrophied from inattention to basic governmental principles. "Reform if you will preserve," is an axiom of human institutions that the citizens of Minnesota ignored—to their peril.

The critical period was the decade of the 1950's. Many Minnesotans, alerted by the experiences of other states and by studies within their own state, were supporting the calling of a constitutional convention to revise Minnesota's century-old constitution. The urgency of constitutional revision for all states had been clearly emphasized by a report of a commission on intergovernmental relations, appointed by President Eisenhower. It had said, in part:

"Early in its study, the Commission was confronted with the fact that many State constitutions restrict the scope, effectiveness, and adaptability of state and local

(Continued on page 6, column 1)

THE MINNESOTA STORY—2057 A.D. (Continued)

action. These self-imposed constitutional limitations make it difficult for many States to perform all of the services their citizens require, and consequently have been the underlying cause of State and municipal pleas for Federal assistance. . . . *The Commission finds a very real and pressing need for the States to improve their constitutions.*"

Other states, which had not recently brought their charters of government up to date, took steps to do so. Minnesota did not. It was the beginning of the end for a sovereign state.

Why did Minnesota deny itself the opportunity for constitutional reform? Many objections to this measure were offered—mostly phony arguments and misrepresentations, which tried to hide the basic reason—a fear of democracy! Enough people distrusted their fellow citizens enough to believe that they would elect radicals as delegates to the convention and would not be sufficiently wise to judge and vote on the convention's proposed constitution. This insult to the people's integrity and intelligence represented a complete break with the democratic tradition of the citizen in America as constitution-maker.

The "great debate" over constitutional revision in Minnesota went on for many years. In the end, the supporters of the common good, discouraged and frustrated, gave up. The objectors, the manipulators of democracy for their own ends, prevailed. The three branches of government, prevented by an inflexible, outmoded constitution from adapting to the dynamic requirements of the mid-twentieth century, became greatly weakened, and over the years ultimately broke down. The fate of Minnesota and its citizens became a national concern in the search for solution. This was not Minnesota's finest hour. Time ran out, and "The Minnesota Story" had an unhappy ending.

Moral: Faith in the other fellow's judgment is the essence of survival of a democratic state.

N. B. . . . Reference is made in these columns to many authorities, among them the 1948 Report of the Minnesota Constitutional Commission. The Report represents the most recent comprehensive examination of the constitution in print. It is important because it reflects the thinking of a commission composed largely of legislators. Recommendations of the MCC are only suggestions and would in no sense be obligatory on a convention. The LWV of Minnesota has never endorsed the Report, although it fully subscribes to many of the principles set forth by it.

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Not used -
Tuesday, March 26, 1957

To Barbara and Sis: These are a few rough suggestions for the "I am hurt" letter, if such is still timely after what happened in the Judiciary Committee this black and bitter morning. On second consideration, maybe it is more timely than ever.

Preface might use a statement that in debates (or discussions, or committee hearings, or whatever) on the bill to allow the people to vote on a bill to revise Minnesota's Constitution that the question has been asked "How does the present Constitution hurt you?"

1. I am hurt by a ninety day limit on ~~the~~ length of the session, because this does not give time enough to pass judgment on over 3,000 bills and allocate a budget of \$-----. The result is haste and confusion ~~during the~~ at the end of the session and covering the clock, while necessary legislation is jammed through.

2. I am hurt by the tremendous amount of special legislation, forbidden because it by the Constitution, ~~which~~ takes away local authority, encourages vote-trading among legislators, and demands time and attention from them which should be given to legislation of state-wide application.

3. I am hurt by the apportionment of legislative districts, because it has not been changed in forty-four years and in certain parts of the state votes count twice what mine counts in electing state representatives.

Whenever a provision of the Constitution is ignored, circumvented or violated every citizen of Minnesota is hurt by erosion of the foundation of representative government.

4. I will be hurt if these and other provisions of the present Constitution are changed by amendment, because the cost to me as a taxpayer of correcting by separate amendment would far more expensive than the cost of a constitutional convention.

this would be a good thing to have in the letter to Barbara and Sis

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

House File # 450

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

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

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

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

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MINNESOTA SENATE

"How does the present ^UConstitution hurt anyone?" This question has been raised during the current legislative debate on the constitutional convention bill. We feel that we are hurt by provisions (or lack of them) in our Minnesota Constitution, and this is ^{in part} why:

1. We are hurt by a 90 day limit on the length of the session because this does not allow our legislators enough time to conduct the state's \$300,000,000 business with the judgment for which we elected them.
2. We are hurt by special legislation which weakens local authority^x and consumes too much of the legislators' time which should be given to legislation of statewide application.
3. We are hurt by the uneven apportionment of legislative districts because the unrealistic provision of the present Constitution has ~~kept~~ ^{made it possible for} the legislature ^{to evade} from doing its constitutional duty, that is, to reapportion the state; this means our ^{voices} ~~votes~~ are unequal.
4. We are hurt by the constitutional provision preventing wise investment of trust funds which makes our tax burden heavier than it should be.
5. ~~We are hurt when we go to the polls because we can't possibly know what should be required of all the constitutionally elected officers of our state, and we must vote blindly for them - or, worse, because of our confusion with the hanging ballot, we do not vote at all.~~
5. We are hurt because we obey our basic law only when it's convenient. This opportunistic approach to law sets a pattern for ^{flaunting} ~~approach to~~ other laws which we, as citizens, are expected to obey.

67. We are hurt because if something happens in the administration of our state of which we disapprove, we can't tell who's responsible. *How can we place responsibility on a weak executive department?* How can we blame the Governor if something we don't like is done by the Treasurer over whom the Governor has no control since we elected the Treasurer, the Governor did not appoint him.)

72. We are hurt because of the many provisions which restrict lawmakers from framing the best possible fiscal policy. For example, the constitutional *stipulation setting the rate* ~~protection~~ of the railroads' gross earning tax (requiring a vote of the people for any change) does not exist in any other state, and is entirely out of place today.

87. We are hurt because if we vote a man into office as Governor, we would like to see him given the opportunity to devote some time to planning a program for the state instead of always having to think in terms of his next campaign. Two years is too short a time for a Governor to plan and carry out a program whereby the people might judge his qualifications for office.

91. We are hurt because one of our fundamental rights - the right to assemble peaceably and to petition the government for the redress of grievances - is not secured by our Constitution. This right is included in the federal Constitution and in nearly all other state constitutions.

101. We are hurt because the failure to make necessary constitutional reforms has diminished states' rights and contributed to the centralization of power in the federal government. This point was eloquently made by President Eisenhower's Commission on Inter-governmental Relations in urging states to reform their constitutions.

We are hurt because
11 whenever a provision of the Constitution is ignored, circumvented or violated,
1 every citizen of Minnesota is hurt by erosion of the foundation of representative government.

12. If all the constitutional provisions referred to above (and others as well) were to be corrected by amendment, we would really be hurt because the cost to us as taxpayers (of correction by separate amendment) would be way in excess of the cost of a constitutional convention.

Respectfully,

The Members of the League of Women Voters in

Afton-Lakeland
Anoka
Austin
etc.

REAPPORTIONMENT ROUND-UP

1957

Samplings of Newspaper Comment

- + shows % of over-representation
- shows % of under-representation

S - Senate
H - House

Cloquet - Dist. 54 - Carlton County. S+12.6% H - 8%

Pine Knot - Feb. '57 - says the lack of reapportionment makes Minnesota one of the most corrupt and basically rotten states and that there is no legal or moral excuse for this travesty on democratic government.

News Graphic - March 1, '57: "It is a sorry state of affairs when Minnesota citizens must turn to the federal courts to protect their basic citizenship rights...A shrewd redistricting is something Minnesotans will have to be on guard against. This state badly needs equal representation by districts in the legislature, and we should be satisfied with nothing less."

Roseau - Dist. 67 - Roseau County. S+9.5% H+36.3%

Times-Region - Feb. 28 '57: "The principle is to give fair representation on a population basis. Considering it in this light we do not see how 'power' will be taken away from one section of the country or the other except in special instances. These instances will be proportional anyway so no great change will be made. After 44 years, it would seem that some effort to comply with the law should be made."

Jackson - Dist. 10 - Jackson County. S+28% H+28.4%

Pilot - Feb. '57 - sees reapportionment as age-old problem of city versus country.

Windom - Dist. 10 - Cottonwood County. S+28% H+30.8%

Reporter - March 1 '57: "Now we are pretty sure to get a reapportionment of the districts for this state...We are hoping that time and due consideration will be taken in the cutting up of the districts so that as fair representation as possible will be voted...We are all for a cut in the membership. This state has the largest senate in this nation..."

Crookston - Dist. 66 - Polk County. S+19.4% H+21.2%

Times - Jan. '57 - thinks reapportionment should be weighted so smaller cities and rural areas will not find themselves out in the cold without an effective voice in state government.

East Grand Forks - Dist. 66 - Polk County. S+19.4% H+21.2%

Record - Jan. '57 - says not the big cities, but the suburbs, would gain legislators in reapportioning.

Fairmont - Dist. 9 - Martin County. S+11.2% H - 12.7%

Sentinel - Feb. '57 - says redistricting is overdue. Wants a smaller legislature with one representative from each county, two senators from each Congressional district, plus a senator-at-large.

Morris - Dist. 48 - Stevens County. S+13.9% H+51.2%

Sun - Feb. '57 - suggests only one house based on population, the other on area.

Clarissa - Dist. 51 - Todd County. S+14.1% H - 11.7%

Independent - Feb. 28 '57: "...Both political parties, year after year, have called for reapportionment in their platforms because it is the only fair and equitable thing to do, as well as doing such an old-fashioned thing as to obey the constitution of the state...If the Bergerud reapportionment bill will carry out the provisions of the constitution that have been ignored for 44 years, without creating general havoc in the legislative makeup, we certainly think it should be passed. It is high time that all the people of the state should get equal representation in their state legislature."

Alexandria - Dist. 47 - Douglas County. S+23.2% H+6.4%

Echo - Feb. 28 '57: "...There is less tension or ill feeling between urban and rural populations today than ever so that even if reapportionment is voted there should be little opposition from our rural people. Minnesotans see more eye-to-eye than ever before."

Askov - Dist. 56 - Pine County. S+30.6% H+20%

American - Feb. 28 '57: "...If it's control in numbers that is desired, there is no chance of rural Minnesota losing that from any redistricting taking place now which is based on population. The state constitution says that legislative districts are to be set up on a population basis. That can't be perfect, but certainly it should not be a 22 to 1 shot, which is preposterous and should not exist...The Askov American is in the rural area of Minnesota, and most of the people we serve are farmers and the local business people close to them. If the city folks need a little lesson or talking-to, we believe in giving it to them straight from the shoulder as on constitutional amendment No. 5- the good roads proposal in 1952...The framers of our constitution knew what they were doing when they based representation on population - the individual. We can't base representation on land area. If that were done we would soon be backing up to representation on wealth...It's high time that the legislative districts in Minnesota be reapportioned, and the total membership reduced while we are at it, to allow for growth in the future..."

Virginia - Dist. 61 - St. Louis County. S+17.7% H+19.6%

Daily Mesabi News - March 7 '57 - reprints the Askov American Editorial.

Appleton - Dist. 25 - Swift County. S+0.1% H+30.4%

Press - March 7 '57: "There is no question but what something should be done... Perhaps it is too much to hope that the legislators will take the long range view of doing what is right for Minnesota, not for themselves or the cities as opposed to the farms. But the day is coming closer when reapportionment will occur in some fashion."

Montevideo - Dist. 24 - Chippewa County. S+29.7% H+26.5%

American - Feb. 28 '57: "We don't see how the State Legislature can put off much longer the matter of reapportionment..."

Elk River - Dist. 55 - Sherburne County. S+27.3% H+28.9%

Star-News - Feb. '57 - says our cities should get equal representation now.

Reapportionment Round-Up

St. Paul

Pioneer-Press - March 6 '57: "Rural opposition to reapportionment of legislative districts on a population basis is usually given as the reason there has been no redistricting in more than 40 years. However, there are some indications that this opposition exists more in the minds of legislators who might lose their jobs than in the hearts of the rural population." Quotes rural editors.

Princeton - Dist. 55 - Mille Lacs County. S + 27.3% H + 28.9%

Union - March 7 '57: "The Federal government seems to have an ideal setup with two senators from every state and the representatives apportioned on the basis of population. With 87 counties in the state it would hardly seem logical to have one state senator from every county..."

Sleepy Eye - Dist. 14 - Brown County. S - 7.9% H + 26.1%

Herald-Dispatch - Feb. 26 '57 - favors the Jensen bill.

Minneapolis

Star - March 1: "...To the credit of the legislators most of them are showing a sense of guilt. There has been no reapportionment since 1913, though the constitution says the legislature shall act after each federal census...the legislators should show their respect for the constitution by voting reapportionment now. They are already 36 years late in acting."

March 13: "...The Bergerud bill would not give urban areas control of the legislature, which some rural legislators frankly say they fear. And if his bill passed in 1957, another reapportionment bill would not be likely for years. The last one was passed in 1913. So urban domination of the legislature is not in prospect for the foreseeable future...Indeed, the old fears of urban or rural domination seem without much real basis. Farmers, town people and city folks have pretty much the same problem..."

Waseca - Dist. 18 - Waseca County. S + 18.9% H + 34.3%

Herald - March 1 '57 - "...Rural Minnesota must get behind the just, fair, equitable area as well as population plan of reapportionment before we are saddled with something as inequitable as the present representation method."

Willmar - Dist. 25 - Kandiyohi County. S + 0.1% H - 25.8%

Tribune - March 9 '57 - discusses Fairmont Sentinel suggestion of 87 representatives and 19 senators; also discusses area plus population plan.

New Ulm - Dist. 14 - Brown County. S - 7.9% H + 26.1%

Daily Journal - Feb. 25 '57 - discusses the plan of 87 representatives and two senators from each Congressional district, plus one senator-at-large..."might it not be a good idea to lay the groundwork now for a complete reapportionment, including Congressional districts, as soon as the 1960 census figures are available. Then enact a law, which really has teeth, to compel reapportionment, after each federal census..."

St. Cloud - Dist. 45 - Stearns County. S - 19.8% H - 52.6%

Daily Tribune - April '56 - says the "situation is becoming disgraceful."

March 26, 1957

What does the Bergerud Gillen bill do?

Reapportions under our present constitution and would take effect at the next election.

Is a compromise. Instead of getting 34.5% of the Senate and House, Hennepin Ramsey get 29%.

The average Hennepin-Ramsey Senator would represent 51,104 people, nonmetropolitan, 44,420.

Additional Hennepin-Ramsey representation goes almost entirely to the critically under-represented suburban areas.

What does the Sinclair - Rosenmeier amendment do?

Reduces the Senate to 56; the House to 112

Is a compromise. Instead of getting 34.5% of Senate and House, Hennepin-Ramsey get 29.9%

Reapportions according to constitution, but contingent up passage of amendment.

Amendment freezes boundaries of 56 Senate districts into constitution.

House would be reapportioned every 10 years on populations.

Reapportionment of House done by Senate.

If House is not reapportioned by Senate, members would run at large in Congressional districts.

What does the [redacted] do?

Reapportions on a population area basis.

First reapportionment would be in 1961.

House would be an area. All counties except 4 smallest would get 1 representative.

Hennepin-Ramsey would have 23.6% of House representation (a little more than at present).

Senate would be on population. Districts would not be drawn until session after amendment passed.

Since only a small number of Senatorial districts satisfy population requirements, the status quo in the Senate would be almost entirely upset.

Congressional redistricting mandatory every 10 years.

If reapportionment is not done, special session would be called.

What do the other Amendments do?

Set a limit on metropolitan representation in one or both houses.

Actual districting would be done at session after amendment passed.

O'Loughlin amendment limits Hennepin-Ramsey to 33% in both houses.

Professor Rand suggests a limit in both houses of 30%. (This would freeze Bergerud reapportionment into constitution).

Sivoch Amendment limits any 3 contiguous counties to 30% of Senate.

Bergqvist amendment limits Hennepin-Ramsey to 30% of Senate.

Representatives Who Would Run at Large Under Various Proposals

(In Janssen-Iverson Bill there would be no representatives at large)

2 Representatives at Large Within 1 District (Usually 1 County)

<u>Now (8)</u>	<u>Reorganized (11)</u>	<u>Sinclair (7)</u>
Blue Earth	Olsted	Olsted
Wright	Blue Earth	Winona
Washington	Rice	Dakota
Hennepin	Dakota	Ramsey
Ramsey (part)	Washington	Hennepin
St. Louis	Hennepin (part)	Ottertail
Folk	Ramsey (part)	St. Louis
Ottertail (4)	Folk	
	Ottertail	
	Itasca	
	St. Louis (part)	

2 Representatives at Large from 3 Counties

<u>Now (3 districts, 9 counties affected)</u>	<u>Reorganized (4 districts, 12 counties aff.)</u>	<u>Sinclair (13 districts, 39 counties affected)</u>
Pennington-Red Lake Clearwater	Watonwan-Cottonwood- Jackson	Murray-Cottonwood-Jackson
Mille Lac-Kanabec	Yellow Medicine-Lac qui Parle-Chippewa	Hobbs-Rock-Pipestone
Shorburne	Kanabec-Mille Lac- Shorburne	Lincoln-Lyon-Yellow Medicine
St. Louis-Cook-Lake	St. Louis-Cook-Lake	Lac qui Parle-Chippewa-Swift
		McLeod-Sibley-Minnetonka
		Carver-Scott-LeSueur
		Benton-Mille Lac-Aitkin
		Clay-Norman-Mahnomen
		Becker-Hubbard-Wadena
		Kanabec-Carlton-Pine
		St. Louis-Cook-Lake
		Beltrami-Koochiching-Clear Water
		Folk-Pennington-Red Lake

3 Representatives at Large from 5 Counties

Sinclair (1 district,
4 counties affected)
Marshall-Kittson
Roseau-Lake of Woods

4 Representatives at Large from 5 Counties

Sinclair (1 district,
5 counties affected)
Stevens-Grant-Big Stone-
Traverse-Wilkin

Comparison of Equality of the Reapportionment Measures Which Draw District Lines.

Can inequalities, or deviations, between districts be avoided?

Because almost all states follow county line in reapportioning and because counties are so unequal in population, substantial inequalities exist under all reapportionments.

Representative districts are likely to even more equal than senatorial ones unless representatives run at large within these districts. The single member district is naturally preferred by legislators, and generally endorsed by students of the subject.

Even in states which have recently reapportioned on a population basis, there is the following difference between largest and smallest districts:

Wisc.	2.8 to 1	S.D.	3.4 to 1
Va.	2.4 to 1	N.D.	5.2 to 1
Oregon	2.4 to 1	Calo.	7.4 to 1

How are inequalities in following tabulation figures?

1. Senate and House are figured separately.
2. An "acceptable district" does not vary more than 20% from the average, or ideal, district. This follows the recommendations of political scientists, who set the figure at 15-20%; an example of Missouri, who provides for no more than a 25% deviation in her "population" Senate.
3. Nonmetropolitan and metropolitan districts are separated because (a) Sinclair amendment gives only an "average population" for Hennepin, Ramsey & St. Louis. (b) both Bergerud & Sinclair measures purposely keep the average Senator district 10,000 larger in Hennepin-Ramsey.

Bergerud: Senate

Hennepin-Ramsey	54,103
Nonmetropolitan	44,820

House

Hennepin-Ramsey	27,052
Nonmetropolitan	21,016

Sinclair: Senate

Hennepin-Ramsey	61,507
Nonmetropolitan	50,115

House

Hennepin-Ramsey	30,234
Nonmetropolitan	26,127

TABLE OF DEVIATIONS

	<u>Gillen</u>		<u>Sinclair</u>	<u>Iverson</u>
Average Senate district	44,420	50,115 38		Deviations in House would be from 8,053 to 34,517 or a deviation of 4 to 1 - However, this is intent of bill. Deviation in Senate would have to be within limits
Deviation between smallest and largest	34,641 to 1 to 56,707 1.6	38,820 to 1 to 58,956 1.5		
Average House district	21,016	24,129		
Deviation between smallest and largest	11,085 to 1 to 32,118 2.8	10,637 to 1 to 42,171 3.9		
No. of Senate districts outside 20% "acceptable" deviation (35,536 to 53,304)	Le Sueur-Rice Carver-Scott 3 Crow-Wing districts Morrison	No. of Senate districts outside 20% "acceptable" deviation (40,092 to 60,138)	Houston-Fillmore 2 Winona districts	
No. of House districts outside 20% "acceptable" deviation (16,813 to 25,219)	Houston Scott Winona Norman Goodhue Anoka 18 Freeborn Isanti Dodge Stearns (pt) Waseca Wadena Sibley Aitkin Wright Swift Chisago Hubbard	No. of House districts outside 20% "acceptable" deviation (19,303 to 28,955)	Houston Wabasha Goodhue Mower Dodge Freeborn Waseca Blue Earth Watonwan Meeker Washington Chisago Anoka Isanti Sherburne St. Cloud (in Stearns)	Crow Wing Stearns (in St. Cloud) Pope Grant 29 counties Stevens or 27 districts Big Stone Traverse Wilkin Itasca Marshall Kittson Roseau Lake of Woods

March 22, 1957

The Honorable Orville L. Freeman
Governor, State of Minnesota
State Capitol
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Governor Freeman:

I know you share our feeling of triumph in the passage of the Constitutional Convention bill by the House.

But this is only the first hurdle. A great effort must be made before we can look forward to favorable action by the Senate. We are doing everything we can think of to alert the public to contact their Senators.

We feel that the inclusion of the Constitutional Convention, Party Designation for Legislators and Reapportionment issues in your news columns, radio and TV programs were so effective earlier in the year, that a re-statement now through these channels is most essential.

We are confident that we can rely on you to do all you can.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young
President

8

March 21, 1957

Editor
Redwood Falls Gazette
Redwood Falls, Minnesota

Dear Sir:

I was interested to read an article in your paper of February 26 suggesting some of the dangers of party designation for legislators were we to return to that system.

The Minnesota League of Women Voters has supported party designation (after studying the issue) for a number of different reasons. We feel that ideally a governor who runs under a party label and on a party platform should expect support from members of his party in the legislature, and that, on the other hand, his opponents should be working to forward their party platform. (All our governors but one have favored a return to party designation since 1913.)

So far as the Minnesota Senate is concerned it would seem to me that the majority of so-called "independents" who oppose much of the governor's program would, under party labels, caucus with the Republicans and could legitimately continue to oppose him on questions where their party differs.

Our big concern here is that we have more responsible government and that involves voters who know ahead where, in general, their legislator stands and what they can expect of him in the legislature.

I am pleased that you are helping air this question. That certainly is an obligation for those of us interested in good state government.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Phyllis Richter
Legislative Committee Member
Minnesota League of Women Voters

File

March 21, 1957

Mr. F. A. Douglass
Lakefield Standard
Lakefield, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Douglass:

I was interested and pleased to read your editorial of March 7 in the Lakefield Standard in which you wrote in favor of party designation for legislators.

We of the Minnesota League of Women Voters came to the same conclusion (after studying this issue) that you have reached; that is that many of the effects of partisan politics exist without party designation. In addition, we have decided, as you would no doubt agree, that many of the values of the party system are lost. Specifically, we believe party labels give voters a general idea where the candidates stand on issues and that the candidates should be committed, at least to some extent, to his party's platform, as are the gubernatorial candidates. Also, political parties are committed to think of the needs of the entire state. We think there would be less concentration by a legislator on his own district often at the sacrifice of the welfare of the whole state.

I especially appreciate your airing this side of the party designation issue since it has been my observation that more space has been given in our outstate press to arguments opposing party labels for legislators.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Phyllis Richter
Legislative Committee Member
Minn. League of Women Voters

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS OFFERED THIS 60th SESSION of LEGISLATURE

- I. Bill of Rights
- II. Boundaries
- III. Powers of Government
- IV. Legislative Department
- V. 20 separate amendments offered
 - 5 pertaining to sessions
 - 9 pertaining to reapportionment - each one providing for an entirely different formula for reapportioning the state.
- V. The Executive
 - 3 providing for 4 year term for all constitutional officers
 - 1 providing for 4 year term for governor and lieutenant governor.
- VI. Judicial
article
Entire new section adopted in 1956
- VII. Elective Franchise
 - 2 amendments offered
 - 1 repeal obsolete material
 - 1 change voting age to 18
- VIII. Education
 - 6 amendments offered
 - 4 for section 2
 - 2 for section 6
 - 1 amendment offered and adopted last election
- IX. Taxation and Finance
 - 1 amendment offered to delete obsolete material
 - An amendment adopted in 1956 election to change Sect. I.A
- X. Corporations
- XI. Local Government
 - An entirely new article is offered this time.
- XII. Militia
- XIII. Impeachments. Removals.

XIV. Amendments.

None offered this time, but should the amending process be made easier?

XV. Miscellaneous Subjects

XVI. Highways

An entire new article was adopted last election.

XVII. Forest Fire Prevention

XVIII. Forestation

XIX. Aeronautics

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS OFFERED THIS 60th SESSION of the LEGISLATURE

<u>S.F.</u>	<u>H.F.</u>	<u>ARTICLE</u>	<u>SECTION</u>	<u>CONTENT</u>
11 Carr		VIII	6	
16 Carr, Burdick		IV	1	session of the legislature
17 Carr		IV	1	limit leg. session to 60 days annually
160 O'Loughlin	513 Otto	IV	2	
Butler	514 Otto	IV	23	census enumeration and apportionment of the legislature
Wright				
182 O'Loughlin		IV	2	reapportionment
Butler				
Wright				
183 Dunlap	356 Duxbury	VII	8	Obsolete-repeal franchise of women
Root	Iverson Jensen Fitzsimons Fuller			
184 Dunlap	356 same	VII	1	Obsolete-repeal qualifications of voters
Root				
185 Dunlap	353 same	IX	5	Obsolete state debt limit-repeal remove state debt limit and provisions superseded by Art. XVI of Con. adopted Nov. 6, 1956
Root				
186 Dunlap	353 same	IV	23	Obsolete-repeal provisions relating to taking of census
Root				
187 Fraser		V	3.5	4 year term for constitutional officers
Rosenmaier				
188 Fraser		IV	23	to make reapportioning compulsory
Schultz				
Kalina				
189 Dunlap	354 Duxbury	IV	26	Obsolete repeal election of U.S. senators by leg.
Root	Iverson Jensen Fitzsimons Fuller			
190 Quie	260 Quie, Anderson, H.J.	V	3.5	4 year term for constitutional officers
Sinclair	Langley, Parks			
Frans	Windmiller			

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS OFFERED THIS SESSION

<u>S.F.</u>	<u>H.F.</u>	<u>ARTICLE</u>	<u>SECTION</u>	<u>CONTENT</u>
239 Vukelich Peterson	440 Fugina, Chilgren Wichterman, Jude Tiemann	V	3	4 year term for gov. and lt. gov.
259 Holmquist Johnson, C.E. Wright	297 Masier, Johnson, A.I. Chilgren, Langen, Dunn	VIII	6	pertaining to the investment of permanent school, University and swamp land funds
412 Welch Rosenmeier Novak		IV	1	relating to the leg.
616 Andersen, E.L., Andersen, A.A. Quie	659 Schulz, Anderson, H.H. Ottinger, Windmiller	now		to authorize payment of a bonus to Korean veterans
643 Andersen, E.L.		IV	1,6,9	Obsolete repeal time and length of sessions, introduction of bills, restrictions on holding office
810 Andersen, E.L. Josefson, Fraser	930 Grittner Luther Chilgren	VIII	2	pertaining to school lands and the investment of the proceeds thereof
815 Sinclair Rosenmeier	1330 Iverson	IV		reapportionment
816 Sinclair Rosenmeier		IV		reapportionment conditioned upon adoption of above amendment
853 Wright		VIII	2	relating to swamp lands
854 Fraser Rosenmeier Dunlap	1031 Popovich, Anderson, H.J., Rutter, Norcen	XI (new) IV repeal	33,36	Home Rule Bill Article completely rewritten
912 Ims		IV	2	providing for reapportionment
913 Balmore	363 Westvedt Iverson	IV	all	Unicameral legislature
937 Zwach		IV	2, 23	reapportionment
1089 Erickson Zwach Josefson	409 Iverson Olsen, C.G. Jensen	IV	2,23,24	reapportionment

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS OFFERED THIS SESSION

<u>S.F.</u>	<u>H.F.</u>	<u>ARTICLE</u>	<u>SECTION</u>	<u>COMMENT</u>
1220 Carr Salmore				pertaining to duties of the secretary of state
	994 Popovitch	VIII	2	pertaining to school lands and the investment of the proceeds thereof
	878 Thuestvedt Podgersaki Hofstad	VII	1	18 year old's voting
	958 Kording, Mosier, Bergersul, Chilgren Anderson, H. J.	VIII	2	relating to swamp lands
	1468 Johnson, E.P., Yetka, Cina, Johnson, A.I. Tann	IV	9	pertaining to the leg. undue restrictions on legislators holding office
	515 Warwick, Peterson, Frans, Wilder	IV	24	relating to senatorial districts and the terms of office of the senators and representatives
	400 Searle Schulz Swenson, G.W.	IV V	1 3,5	legislature meet 4 year term for con. officers and providing for elections in non- presidential years
	401 Searle Grittner Schulz	IV	1	legislature meet annually for 75 days
815	1330 Ivarson	IV	2,23,24	reapportionment
	795 Wichterman Battles Bergeson	IV	2,23,24	reapportionment
	1546 Fording La Brousse Anderson, H.R.	IV	1	limiting session to 75 days annually

Guthrie
Greenman
Hogans
F2D4D192-7

Home address: 117 W. Howard St.
Hibbing, Minn.

March 8, 1957

The Honorable Vel Imm
Senate Chambers
St. Paul 1, Minn.

Dear Senator Imm:

You perhaps will not remember my talking to you during the 1955 session about our position on the constitutional convention bill, which is again before this Legislature, Senate File #135.

Although I note that you voted against the bill in the 1955 session, I am taking the liberty of writing you in the hope that you may now feel that the people should have the opportunity of voting on the question of whether or not a convention should be called to revise the Constitution of the State of Minnesota.

There does not seem to be much controversy as to the need for improvement in our Constitution, when you consider the unfavorable conditions under which it was written in 1857, the many inconsistencies, ignored sections, and the fact that it has been amended over 80 times. The question is: How shall it be done?

As you know, the League takes the position that the convention method would be the most orderly, economical and efficient way of doing the job. If four amendments were submitted at each election, it would take 20 years just to put into effect the 40 major changes (not considering an additional 78 minor ones) recommended by the 1947 Constitutional Commission, at an estimated cost of over \$60,000 per amendment, and we would still have a patched up document.

However, aside from that, we believe the voters should be given a chance to decide the issue. I sincerely hope you agree, and that you will support this bill.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young
President

p.s. Will you greet your brother, Pete, for me? We used to work together in the Walther League in Mankato. The last time Mr. Young and I talked to him he was living in St. Paul. I hope he is well and enjoying a successful business.

Can't contact file

F2D4B9

legislative

Home address: 117 W. Howard St.
Hibbing, Minn.
March 8, 1957

Mrs. Fred N. Lutz
President, Art History Club,
212 Oak Knoll Blvd.
Mankato, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Lutz:

You may remember my speaking at your club last April on the need for constitutional revision. As you no doubt know, the bill which would submit to the voters the question of calling a convention to revise the constitution is again before the Legislature, House File #289, Senate File 135.

Although I know you cannot speak in the name of the Club, since it is not on the MPWC program, I am writing you in the hope that you might be willing to lend your influence, as an individual, to gain support for this bill, and that you and your husband might write the legislators in your district, and encourage your members and others to do the same.

I have talked to the state president, Mrs. Haugen, about it many times. She is a member of the Minnesota Citizens Constitutional Committee, and told me the last time I talked to her that an issue of the Clubwoman would be devoted to the subject.

There does not seem to be much controversy as to the need for improvement in our Constitution, when you consider the unfavorable conditions under which it was written in 1857, the many inconsistencies, ignored sections, and the fact that it has been amended over 80 times. The question is: How shall it be done: By convention, or by the slow expensive amendment method.

As you know, the League takes the position that the convention method would be the most orderly, economical and efficient way of doing the job. If four amendments were submitted at each election, it would take 20 years just to put into effect the 40 major changes (not considering an additional 78 minor ones) recommended by the 1947 Constitutional Commission, at an estimated cost of over \$60,000 per amendment, and we would still have a patched-up document.

However, aside from that, we believe the voters should be given a chance to decide this issue, and that is all the bill calls for. If 2/3 of both Houses vote for the bill, the question: "shall a convention be called to revise the constitution of the State of Minnesota", will be on the ballot in November, 1958, and the people will vote "Yes" or "No". Your Senator, Val Iam, voted against it in the last session, but it may be that he has changed his mind or would be willing to submit it to the electorate, in spite of his convictions. I do hope that you and your members will feel you can write or talk to him, and your representatives, Arthur Ogle and Roy Schulz, asking them to support the bill because you feel that the voters should have this very basic right of deciding if and when their constitution should be reviewed. Every letter counts, every moment counts, if it is not to be defeated again. My thanks, and with kindest regards to you and the members of your Club.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young, President

They may be addressed at the State Capitol, St. Paul 1, Minn.

Home address: 117 W. Howard St.
Hibbing, Minn.
March 8, 1957

Mrs. Frank King
Pres. Women's Club
1002 E. 2nd Ave.
Grand Rapids, Minn.

Dear Mrs. King:

You may remember my speaking at a county meeting and at your Grand Rapids Club some time ago on the need for constitutional revision. As you no doubt know, the bill which would submit to the voters the question of calling a convention to revise the constitution is again before the Legislature, House File #289, Senate File 135.

Although I know you cannot speak in the name of the Club, since it is not on the MFWC program, I am writing you in the hope that you might be willing to lend your influence, as an individual, to gain support for this bill, and that you and your husband might write the legislators in your district and encourage others ~~to do so.~~ *Your members and others to do the same.*

I have talked to the state president, Mrs. Heugan, about it many times. She is a member of the Minnesota Citizens Constitutional Committee, and told me the last time I talked to her that an issue of the Clubwoman would be devoted to the subject.

There does not seem to be much controversy as to the need for improvement in our Constitution, when you consider the unfavorable conditions under which it was written in 1857, the many inconsistencies, ignored sections, and the fact that it has been amended over 80 times. The question is: How shall it be done: By convention, or by the slow expensive amendment method.

As you know, the League takes the position that the convention method would be the most orderly, economical and efficient way of doing the job. If four amendments were submitted at each election, it would take 20 years just to put into effect the 40 major changes (not considering an additional 78 minor ones) recommended by the 1947 Constitutional Commission, at an estimated cost of over \$60,000 per amendment, and we would still have a patched-up document.

However, aside from that, we believe the voters should be given a chance to decide this issue, and that is all the bill calls for. If 2/3 of both Houses vote for the bill, the question: "Shall a convention be called to revise the constitution of the State of Minnesota", will be on the ballot in Nov. 1958, and the people will vote "Yes" or "No". Your Senator, George C. O'Brien, voted against it in the last session, but it may be that he has changed his mind or would be willing to submit it to the electorate, in spite of his convictions. I do hope you will feel you can write him or talk to him and your representatives, Vladimir Shipka and Robert G. Renner, asking them to support the bill because you feel that the voters should have this very basic right of deciding if and when their constitution should be reviewed. They may be addressed at the State Capitol, St. Paul 1.

Thank you, and with best wishes for a successful and satisfactory term.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young, President

Home address: 117 W. Howard St.
Hibbing, Minn.
March 8, 1957

Mrs. A. W. Anderson
President, 8th District
Minnesota Federated Women's Clubs
314 Pokegama Ave. South
Grand Rapids, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Anderson:

You may remember my speaking to clubs in your district in the past two years on the need for constitutional revision. As you no doubt know, the bill which would submit to the voters the question of calling a convention to revise the constitution is again before the Legislature, House File #289, Senate File 135.

Although I know you cannot speak in the name of the Club, since it is not on the MFWC program, I am writing you in the hope that you might be willing to lend your influence, as an individual, to gain support for this bill, and that you and your husband might write the legislators in your district, and encourage others to do so.

I have talked to your state president, Mrs. Haugan, about it many times. She is a member of the Minnesota Citizens Constitutional Committee, and told me the last time I talked to her that an issue of the Clubwoman would be devoted to the subject.

There does not seem to be much controversy as to the need for improvement in our Constitution, when you consider the unfavorable conditions under which it was written in 1857, the many inconsistencies, ignored sections, and the fact that it has been amended over 80 times. The question is: How shall it be done? By convention, or by the slow expensive amendment method.

As you know, the League takes the position that the convention method would be the most orderly, economical and efficient way of doing the job. If four amendments were submitted at each election, it would take 20 years just to put into effect the 40 major changes (not considering an additional 78 minor ones) recommended by the 1947 Constitutional Commission, at an estimated cost of over \$60,000 per amendment, and we would still have a patched up document.

However, aside from that, we believe the voters should be given a chance to decide this issue, and that is all the bill calls for. If 2/3 of both Houses vote for the bill, the question: "Shall a convention be called to revise the constitution of the State of Minnesota", will be on the ballot in November, 1958, and the people will vote "Yes" or "No".

Your Senator, George C. O'Brien, voted against it in the last session, but it may be that he has changed his mind, or would be willing to submit it to the electorate, in spite of his convictions. I do hope you will feel you can write him or talk to him and your representatives, Vladimir Shipka and Robert G. Rehner, asking them

3/8/57

to support the bill because you feel that the voters should have this very basic right of deciding if and when their constitution should be reviewed. They may be addressed at the State Capitol, St. Paul 1, Minn.

Thank you, and with best wishes for a successful and satisfactory term.

We are indeed fortunate to have you as our District president.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young
President

Home address: 117 W. Howard St.
Hibbing, Minn.
March 11, 1957

Mrs. E. A. Friedman
Pres. Coleraine Woman's Club
Coleraine, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Friedman:

You may remember my speaking at a meeting of your Club and a county meeting some time ago on the need for constitutional revision. As you no doubt know, the bill which would submit to the voters the question of calling a convention to revise the constitution is again before the Legislature, House File 289, Senate File 135.

Although I know you cannot speak in the name of the Club, since it is not on the MFWC program, I am writing you in the hope that you might be willing to lend your influence, as an individual, to gain support for this bill, and that you and your husband might write the legislators in your district and encourage your members and others to do the same.

I have talked to the state president, Mrs. Haugan, about it many times. She is a member of the Minnesota Citizens Constitutional Committee, and told me the last time I talked to her that an issue of the Clubwoman would be devoted to the subject.

There does not seem to be much controversy as to the need for improvement in our Constitution, when you consider the unfavorable conditions under which it was written in 1857, the many inconsistencies, ignored sections, and the fact that it has been amended over 80 times. The question is: How shall it be done: By convention, or by the slow expensive amendment method?

As you know, the League takes the position that the convention method would be the most orderly, economical and efficient way of doing the job. If four amendments were submitted at each election, it would take 20 years just to put into effect the 40 major changes (not considering an additional 78 minor ones) recommended by the 1947 Constitutional Commission, at an estimated cost of over \$60,000 per amendment, and we would still have a patched-up document.

However, aside from that, we believe the voters should be given a chance to decide this issue, and that is all the bill calls for. If 2/3 of both Houses vote for the bill, the question: "Shall a convention be called to revise the constitution of the State of Minnesota", will be on the ballot in Nov, 1958, and the people will vote "Yes" or "No". Your Senator, George C. O'Brien, voted against it in the last session, but it may be that he has changed his mind or would be willing to submit it to the electorate, in spite of his convictions. I do hope you will feel you can write him or talk to him and your representatives Vladimir Shipke and Robert G. Renner, asking them to support the bill because you feel that the voters should have this very basic right of deciding if and when their constitution should be reviewed. They may be addressed at the State Capitol, St. Paul 1.

Thank you, and with best wishes for a successful and satisfactory term.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young
President

File it contact File

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Prossman
gethne
Hargraves
file

Home address: 117 W. Howard St.,
Hibbing, Minn.

March 8, 1957

Mr. and Mrs. Milton D. Mason
Attorneys at Law
Mankato, Minn.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Mason:

Perhaps you won't remember me; it has been a long time since I worked in your office, but I hope you do, and am writing in the further hope that you might be willing to use your influence to gain support for the constitutional convention bill now before the Legislature. I know Mrs. Mason was very active in the League, and feel confident you are both interested in the passage of this bill. It is House File #239, Senate File #135, and seeks to submit to the voters in the next general election the question of calling a convention to revise the Constitution of the State of Minnesota.

We support the convention method of revision and take the position that the voters should have an opportunity of deciding whether or not a convention should be called.

The bill has been voted out of the House General Legislation Committee-11-8 and it will soon be considered by the Senate Judiciary Committee, wherein lies our strongest opposition. The Senate killed it in the 1955 session, the day before the House was expected to pass it.

Your Senator, Vel Imm, voted against it in the last session. It may be that he has changed his mind, or would be willing to submit it to the electorate, in spite of his convictions, but since there is no League in Mankato now, I am not sure. I'm sure if you spoke or wrote to him, as well as Art Ogle and Roy Schultz, it would carry a great deal of weight. I am not sure of how Art Ogle or Roy Schultz feel about it, since there was no roll call vote in the House last session.

Senator Thomas P. Welch, Buffalo, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, is strongly opposed to it, and has sent it to a subcommittee with all the constitutional amendments. Sen. Gordon Rosenmeier is chairman of the subcommittee. He was a member of the Constitutional Commission appointed by the 1947 Legislature to study the need for revision, voted for 112 changes and supported the convention method. Unhappily, he has now changed his mind and is supporting the amendment approach and opposing this bill. I understand, however, that he has agreed to send it back to committee since it does not require further study.

I am enclosing list of the members of the Judiciary Committee, a copy of "Revision of Minnesota's constitution and the Courts", Roaring Farrow, giving the history of the 1957 convention, and am asking the office to send you a copy of our booklet. If you feel you could do anything to influence the vote of your legislators, the members of this committee, or people in the "no" vote districts, I would be eternally grateful.

Thanks, and with best wishes,

Sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young, president

Home address:
117 West Howard Street
Hibbing, Minn.

Mr. A. R. Pfau, III
Attorney at Law
Mankato, Minn.

March 8, 1957

Dear Bob:

I am writing this letter in the hope that you might be willing to use your influence to gain support for the constitutional convention bill now before the Legislature. It is House File 289, Senate File 135, and seeks to submit to the voters in the next general election the question of calling a convention to revise the Constitution of the State of Minnesota.

We support the convention method of revision and take the position that the voters should have an opportunity of deciding whether or not a convention should be called.

The bill has been voted out of the House General Legislation Committee, 11-6, and it will soon be considered by the Senate Judiciary Committee, wherein lies our strongest opposition. The Senate killed it in the 1955 session the day before the House was expected to pass it.

Your Senator, Val Imm, voted against it in the last session, and I am hoping you will be willing to speak or write to him about it. It may be that he has changed his mind, or would be willing to submit it to the electorate, in spite of his own convictions, but since there is no League in Mankato, we have no way of knowing definitely. The same is true of Art Ogle and Roy Schultz.

Senator Thomas P. Welch, Buffalo, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, is strongly opposed to it, and has sent it to a subcommittee with all the constitutional amendments. Senator Gordon Rosenmeier is chairman of the subcommittee. He was a member of the Constitutional Commission, appointed by the 1947 Legislature, to study the need for revision, voted for 112 changes and supported the convention method. Unhappily, he has now changed his mind and is supporting the amendment approach and opposing this bill. I understand, however, that he has agreed to send it back to committee since it does not require further study.

I am enclosing list of the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, a copy of "Revision of Minnesota's Constitution and the Courts", "Rearing Farce", giving the history of the 1857 convention, and am asking the office to send you some answers to arguments we have prepared, and a copy of our booklet. If you feel you could do anything to influence the vote of these committee members, your own legislators, or people in the "no" vote districts, I would be eternally grateful.

Thanks for anything you feel you can do to help the "cause", and with best wishes from Bud and myself to you and Mrs. Pfau.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young, President

Home address: 117 W. Howard
Hibbing, Minn.

March 6, 1957

Mr. Ray G. Moonan
Attorney at Law
Minnesota Federal Bldg.
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Ray:

I am writing this letter in the hope that you might be willing to use your influence to gain support for the constitutional convention bill now before the Legislature. It is House File 289, Senate File 135, and seeks to submit to the voters in the next general election the question of calling a convention to revise the Constitution of the State of Minnesota.

We support the convention method of revision and take the position that the voters should have an opportunity of deciding whether or not a convention should be called.

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I was very pleased to see John Fitzgerald elected from the 21st district. I have never met him, but Mrs. Zimmer, a member of the State Board from New Prague, tells me he enjoys the respect and admiration of the community, and I know he is a fine lawyer, having had the benefit of your tutelage. I am not sure how he feels about constitutional convention; he has said he feels a moral obligation to do something about reapportionment (that too is on our program, as well as party designation for legislators).

3/5/57

In our research on reapportionment, I was interested to find that your father was co-sponsor with Duxbury and Haycraft in 1911 to the last reapportionment amendment that has had serious consideration in both houses.

Thanks for anything you feel you can do to help the "cause", and with best wishes from Bud and myself, to you and Florence,

Sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young
President

Home address: 117 W. Howard
Rice, Minn.

March 6, 1957

Mr. Joseph N. Moonan
Attorney at Law
Waseca, Minn.

Dear Joe:

I am writing this letter in the hope that you might be willing to use your influence to gain support for the constitutional convention bill now before the Legislature. It is House File 289, Senate File 135, and seeks to submit to the voters in the next general election the question of calling a convention to revise the Constitution of the State of Minnesota.

We support the convention method of revision and take the position that the voters should have an opportunity of deciding whether or not a convention should be called.

The bill has been voted out of the House General Legislation Committee, 11-6, and it will soon be considered by the Senate Judiciary Committee, wherein lies our strongest opposition. The Senate killed it in the 1955 session the day before the House was expected to pass it.

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I was very pleased to see John Fitzgerald elected from the 21st district. I have never met him, but Mrs. Simer, a member of the State Board from New Prague, tells me he enjoys the respect and admiration of the community, and I know he is a fine lawyer, in the tradition of his family. I am not sure how he feels about constitutional convention; he has said he feels a moral obligation to do something about reapportionment (that too is on our program, as well as party designation for legislators.).

3/6/57

In our research on reapportionment, I was interested to find that your father was co-sponsor with Duxbury and Hayercraft in 1911 to the last reapportionment amendment that has had serious consideration in both houses.

Thanks for anything you feel you can do to help the "cause", and with best wishes from Bud and myself to you, Ethel and Mary.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young
President

(COPY)

Law Offices
GALLAGHER AND MADDEN
Waseca, Minnesota

March 9, 1957

Mrs. Basil Young
117 W. Howard Street
Hibbing, Minnesota

Dear Ethyl:

I am in receipt of your letter of March 7 regarding the legislation with reference to calling a convention to revise the constitution of Minnesota.

I shall be very happy to write some of the committee members, particularly the ones I am acquainted with, on this subject. In today's mail I received some literature from the League of Women Voters which I will look over during the weekend and get my letters out the first of the week. In reviewing the list, I am acquainted with about one-half of the Legislative members mentioned.

It seems to me that a revision of the constitution is in order at this time.

With best regards to you and Bud,

Sincerely

Henry
Henry M. Gallagher

HMG:rn

FD489
Contact file

get into
9-11-57
Hoyman
Judge Gallagher
is former
Chief Justice
of the Supreme
Court - when
he says he
doesn't know
he lies.

E.g.
sent him
list of
Judiciary
committee
with
water
copy of
letter in
file

Home address: 117 W. Howard St.
Hibbing, Minn.

The Honorable Henry M. Gallagher
Attorney at Law
Waseca, Minn.

March 7, 1957

Dear Henry:

I am writing this letter in the hope that you might be willing to lend your influence to gain support for the constitutional convention bill now before the Legislature. It is House File #289, Senate File #135, and seeks to submit to the voters in the next general election the question of calling a convention to revise the Constitution of the State of Minnesota.

We support the convention method of revision and take the position that the voters should have an opportunity of deciding whether or not a convention should be called.

The bill has been voted out of the House General Legislation Committee, 11-8, and it will soon be considered by the Senate Judiciary Committee, wherein lies our strongest opposition. The Senate killed it in the 1955 session the day before the House was expected to pass it.

Senator Thomas P. Welch, Buffalo, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, is strongly opposed to it, and has sent it to a subcommittee with all the constitutional amendments. Senator Gordon Rosenmeier is chairman of the subcommittee. He was a member of the Constitutional Commission, appointed by the 1947 Legislature, to study the need for revision, voted for 112 changes and supported the convention method. Unhappily, he has now changed his mind and is supporting the amendment approach and opposing this bill. I understand, however, that he has agreed to send it back to committee since it does not require further study.

I am enclosing list of the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, a copy of "Revision of Minnesota's Constitution and the Courts", "Roaring Farce", giving the history of the 1857 convention, and am asking the office to send you some answers to arguments we have prepared, and a copy of our booklet. If you feel you could do anything to influence the vote of these committee members or your own legislators, or people in the "no" vote districts, I would be eternally grateful.

With best wishes and kindest regards to you and Mrs. Gallagher, from Bud and myself,

Sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young
President

Home address: 117 W. Howard St.
Hibbing, Minn.

March 7, 1957

Mr. G. P. Madden
Attorney at Law
Waseca, Minn.

Dear Pete:

I am writing this letter in the hope that you might be willing to lend your influence, as an attorney and former legislator, to gain support for the constitutional convention bill now before the Legislature. It is House File #289, Senate File #135, and seeks to submit to the voters in the next general election the question of calling a convention to revise the Constitution of the State of Minnesota.

We support the convention method of revision and take the position that the voters should have an opportunity of deciding whether or not a convention should be called.

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With best wishes and kindest regards to you and Mrs. Madden, from Bud and myself; it was good to see you again when I was there in December.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young
President

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THE LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA MUNICIPALITIES

15 University of Minnesota Library • Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

OFFICIAL COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION of Minnesota Cities and Villages • Official Publication, MINNESOTA MUNICIPALITIES

C. C. LUDWIG, Executive Secretary
ORVILLE C. PETERSON, Attorney

Telephone: Federal 2-8158, Ext. 6185-6186

March 6, 1957

F2D5A112

Mrs. George Wilson
League of Women Voters
15th & Washington S.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota

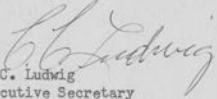
Dear Mrs. Wilson:

As you requested in your inquiry of March 4, we are sending you a copy of the following:

PROPOSED LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION

If there is anything further which we can do to be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Sincerely yours,


C. C. Ludwig
Executive Secretary

CDW:lms

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

FEB 20 1957

A BILL

FOR AN ACT PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION
OF MINNESOTA RELATING TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT BY ADDING A
NEW ARTICLE XI, REPEALING ARTICLE IV, SECTION 36 AND
THE PRESENT ARTICLE XI, AND REPEALING INCONSISTENT
PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE IV, SECTION 33.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. An amendment of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota is proposed to the people of the state for their approval or rejection, which amendment, if adopted, shall be known as Article XI and shall replace the present Article XI, Article IV, Section 36, and inconsistent provisions of Article IV, Section 33. The proposed amendment reads:

ARTICLE XI

Section 1. A local government is a county, city, village, town, school district or other political subdivision for which provision has been made by law for self government and for the holding of elections.

A law that applies to fewer than all members of any class of any type of local government, or a law providing for a variation in any right, power, privilege, immunity, duty, obligation, or form of organization between members of any class of any type of local government, is a special law; but a law otherwise general is not a special law because it provides for such a variation between members of a class having a home rule charter and those not having such a charter.

A charter adopted under the provisions of Sections 5, 7, or 8 is a home rule charter.

Sec. 2. The Legislature may provide by general law for the creation, organization, administration, consolidation, division and dissolution of local governments.

and their functions, for the change of boundaries thereof, and for the transfer of county seats. No county boundary shall be changed or county seat transferred until approved by a majority of the voters of each county affected voting thereon.

A general law hereafter enacted shall prevail over the provisions of a home rule charter only if such law expressly so states.

Sec. 3. For the purposes of legislation the Legislature may classify any type of local government, but the maximum number of such classes shall be: counties, six; cities, four; villages, three; towns, three; school districts, six. At the time of the passage of any such law there shall be at least three local governments of one type in a class. The Legislature may provide by general law for the transition of local governments from one class to another.

Sec. 4. The Legislature may enact special laws for any local government and may amend or extend any such law. Any special law shall name the local government to which it applies. Before any such law or any amendment or extension thereof becomes effective it shall be approved by a majority of the voters of the local government voting thereon at a general or special election, except that the Legislature may provide that a special law applicable to a local government of more than 100,000 population may become effective upon approval of the local governing body by such majority as the Legislature may prescribe by law. Any special law may be modified or superseded by a home rule charter or amendment subsequently adopted by the local government to which the special law applies; and any special law may be repealed by law adopted without popular approval or by such action of the local government concerned as may be prescribed by general law.

Sec. 5. Any city or village may adopt a home rule charter for its government as a city and any county may adopt a home rule charter for its government as a county in accordance with this Constitution and the laws of the state. Any such charter shall provide, among other things, for the form of government, for the election of the principal governing body and for the performance of all duties imposed upon the local government by this Constitution and the laws of the state.

Sec. 6. The Legislature shall provide by law for charter commissions. Such law may require that commission members shall be freeholders and may permit any member to hold any other elective or appointive office other than judicial. Such law shall specify the manner of presenting a home rule charter or an amendment thereof to the governing body and of submitting it to the voters, and shall fix the majority vote required for adoption. Such law shall provide that amendments may be submitted by a charter commission on its own initiative, and shall be submitted upon petition of five per cent of the voters of the city or county as determined by law. The Legislature may provide by law for any other method of presenting and adopting home rule charter amendments by the city or county. The power to submit a home rule charter or amendment is a continuing one and is not exhausted by the original submission. A county or city may repeal its home rule charter and adopt a statutory form of local government upon the same majority vote as fixed by law for the adoption of a home rule charter.

Sec. 7. The Legislature may provide by law for the partial or complete consolidation of a county and the principal city of the county under a home rule charter. The county charter commission shall present such charter to the county governing board for submission to the voters, and it shall become effective when approved by such majority of the voters in the city voting thereon and such majority of the voters in the remainder of the county voting thereon as required by law; but no provision of such charter dissolving or restricting the powers of any other local government shall be effective unless the charter is approved by a majority of the voters of such local government voting thereon.

Sec. 8. The Legislature may provide by law for the organization of any city of more than 50,000 inhabitants as a city-county under a home rule charter. Such law shall provide for the division of county property, debts and records between the city-county and the remainder of the county, and shall provide for the government of the remainder of the county either as a separate county or as a part of an

adjacent county. A city-county charter shall be presented and submitted as a city home rule charter is required to be presented and submitted. Such a charter shall become effective when approved by a majority of the voters in the city voting thereon and a majority of the voters in the remainder of the county voting thereon. A city-county shall have the powers and duties of a city and of a county.

Sec. 9. Article IV, Section 36 and the previously existing Article XI of the Constitution of Minnesota are repealed. Those provisions of Article IV, Section 33 dealing with special laws on local government are superseded by this article. Existing laws, valid when enacted, shall continue in effect until amended or repealed in accordance with this article.

Sec. 2. The proposed amendment shall be submitted to the voters of the state for their approval or rejection. The ballots used at the election on the proposed amendment shall have printed thereon: "Shall the Constitution of Minnesota be amended by including a consolidated article on local government, restricting the passage of special laws, authorizing cities, villages, and counties to adopt and amend home rule charters, and permitting the organization of city-counties and the consolidation of cities and counties as authorized by law?"

Time Place Hearing
more time 1 hr.

- 5 people.

10 min.

minutes. listening

send out 6

languages.

Correction of MCCC
but

Thurs - Mar 14 - #238

SAM - 1 hour prep.

Holmes +

Harrison -

Anderson - early

Harrison - late BiPart

Run room ??

Workshop +

Pearson
(copy)

File

F 2D2D

1957

March 6, 1957

Mr. Donald Holmes
1st National Soc Line Bldg.
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Holmes,

Just to confirm our conversation of this morning.....

The hearing of the proponents of Constitutional Convention in the Senate Judiciary Committee will be on Thursday, March 14th, at 9 A.M., in Room 238, for one hour. This time will be divided between five people this time, so that I think you could enlarge on your testimony a bit, if you wish. This decision was made in consultation with Senator Holmquist, after the Judiciary Committee had confirmed Senator Welch's proposed schedule. The others testifying will be Mr. Lawson, Professor Anderson, Mrs. Hargraves, a business man and yourself.

Mrs. Guthrie thinks that your testimony would be especially useful to send to lawyers in the legislature, so if you could send us your statement, we will mimeograph it for you, and for us to distribute more widely.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Harold L. Wilson
Executive Secretary

mail 9-3902

not carbon

March 6, 1957

Mr. George W. Lawson
552 Fairview So.
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Lawson,

We have just now learned that the hearing for the proponents of the Constitutional Convention bill as I told you this morning by telephone, in the Senate Judiciary Committee will be on Thursday, March 14, at 8 A.M. in Room 238. The proponents will have one hour of time, until 9 A.M., and the opponents will have the next hour.

Mrs. Hargraves and Mrs. Guthrie have consulted with Senator Holmquist about the hearing and they all feel very strongly that it is very important that the Senators hear your testimony, and they hope very much that you will be there and speak.

I thought you might appreciate this written confirmation of our telephone conversation this morning.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Harold L. Wilson
Executive Secretary

2-7867

March 14, 1957

Mrs. Russell Lund
4104 W. 48 Street
Minneapolis 24, Minn.

Dear Rhoda,

You perhaps know by now that the hearing scheduled for the Constitutional Convention bill in the Senate Judiciary Committee will be on Thursday, March 14th, in Room 238. The proponents will speak from 8 A.M. to 9 A.M., the opponents from 9 A.M. to 10 A.M.

Mrs. Hargraves and Mrs. Guthrie wanted me to alert you immediately so that you and Mrs. Ridder could contact the business man you have in mind to speak at the hearing. I have informed Mr. Holmes, Professor Anderson, Mr. Lawson and Mrs. Hargraves.

Good luck to us all!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Harold L. Wilson
Executive Secretary

cc to Mrs. Ridder

Workshop ✓

Bus. Man ✓

P. Hall

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8 A M V -

March 6, 1957

Professor Wm. Anderson,
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

Dear Professor Anderson,

We have just now learned that the hearing for the proponents of the Constitutional Convention bill in the Senate Judiciary Committee will be on Thursday, March 14, at 8 A.M., in Room 238. The proponents will have one hour of time, until 9 A.M., then the opponents will have the next hour.

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Harold L. Wilson
Executive Secretary

Handwritten signatures:
L. Eargraves
Guthrie
[unclear]

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
15th and Washington Avenues, SE
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

*given to Mr. Korte - Clerk
Joint Legis. Committee - May 1
March 4, 1957 1957*

INFORMATION ON CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS

New York

1. Between 1938 and 1957. 46 amendments were adopted, 3 were defeated.

The 1938 Revision was submitted not as a single document but as a series of 9 amendments.

2. The New York Constitution is fairly long and detailed, which accounts for the frequency of amendments.

Missouri

1. Adopted 6 amendments of the 11 submitted to the people in a 12 year period.

2. Revising Statutes

See copy of letter from Legislative Research Committee (attached) of the State of Missouri.

State appropriated \$100,000; Committee spent \$78,000. This included regular services which the committee performs for the Assembly. \$53,000 was spent on extra personnel whose time was devoted to the work of revising statutes.

3. Refer to Donald Holmes' testimony (copies were left with Mr. England) presented to the committee on the 18th of February, 1957, which described statutes which had not been revised since the last century. State codes need to be brought up-to-date periodically, whether there is a constitutional convention or not.
4. Mr. Christman states that 450 bills were required to bring Missouri's statutes in conformity with the new constitution. Is this a large number when you consider that the legislature considered 3507 bills during the 1955 session.

Cost of Amendments in Minnesota -- Based on estimates of the Secretary of State

State Costs

1950	-	\$ 17,000
1952	-	24,000
1954	-	20,000
1956	-	<u>136,827</u>

Total \$197,827

Local Costs

\$184,848

Total Costs

\$382,675

Average Costs

\$ 95,666

The local costs of a general election for all of the 3,851 precincts are \$231,060 (cost of judges and clerks). 1/5 of this or \$46,212 is chargeable to amendment costs. Multiply this by 4 elections, and you have \$184,848.

Total State and Local Costs of Amendments last 4 elections.
Of the last 4 elections in Minnesota

copy League of Women Voters of Minnesota
Committee on Legislative Research, State of Missouri, State Capitol
Jefferson City, Missouri

Mrs. Malcolm Hargraves, Chairman
Constitutional Revision Committee
LWV of Minnesota

January 22, 1957

Dear Mrs. Hargraves:

In response to your letter of January 15, I give you the following information:

Since the adoption of the present constitution in 1945 there have been eleven proposed amendments, six of which have been adopted by the people. One of these six authorized a \$75 million bond issue and in the sense that the constitution needed changing it was not an amendment at all. As a matter of fact, it is my opinion that this bond issue could have been authorized by statutory law.

A constitutional amendment may be initiated either by the people or by the general assembly and I suppose so long as this is true we will have a number of proposals at each election; but actually the new constitution has cut down on the need for such proposals as well as the number adopted. You will note that six amendments in twelve years is not too many for the changing conditions under which we live.

In the 1945-46 session of the general assembly the work of changing the statutory law to conform to the new constitution was undertaken. It is difficult to say exactly what the cost of this operation was; however, these figures may be of interest to you. The staff of this agency was augmented by a temporary personnel for the purpose of serving committees of the legislature and of searching the law and determining what statutes needed changing. An appropriation of \$100,000 was made to the agency for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946. Of this \$100,000, \$78,000 was expended. However, this included not only the work on statutory revision but also the expense of the regular services which we perform for the general assembly. Actually, in this year approximately \$53,000 was spent on extra temporary personnel whose time was devoted to this work. To this should be added the cost of additional time spent in session by the general assembly but I have no figures on this; however, I would say that the total cost would probably be in the neighborhood of \$150,000. It is my opinion that this money was well spent and that up to this time our statutes were revised only once in ten years and this afforded an opportunity to change them and to bring them up to date.

I hope this information will be of some help to you.

Very truly yours,

(signed)
William R. Nelson
Director of Research

copy National Municipal League
Carl H. Pforsheimer Building
47 West 68th Street, New York 21 Telephone: LWhich 5-5700
July 13, 1956

Mrs. Stanley Kane
701 Parkview Terrace
Minneapolis 16, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Kane:

We are glad that the League of Women Voters of Minnesota is continuing the fight for constitutional convention. I am pleased that you found my Boulder speech helpful. I tried in that to give some answer to the ridiculous fear of a radical convention.

You are quite right to put the argument for constitutional revision on more firm and basic grounds than the claim of specific monetary savings. Essentially business citizens should expect to get what any other citizens get out of a sound modern constitution, namely more efficient and responsible government which will perform the tasks the citizens demand of it in an economical and effective a manner as possible.

Certain kinds of changes in a constitution can be expected to be reflected in demonstrable money savings. Governor Briscoe, of New Jersey, was able to point to some millions of dollars of savings over a period of years resulting from administrative reorganization pursuant to the new New Jersey Constitution of 1948. It is hard to give precise figures for such savings, however, because the costs that go into state government are constantly changing due to a variety of factors that are unrelated to constitutional revision or reorganization.

I think one of the most telling arguments of thoughtful businessmen in many states at this time is that unless state governments are permitted to function in a manner which gives legitimate satisfaction to their citizens, a demand is built up for federal action to compensate for the inadequate action of the states. This, as you know, was emphasized by the National Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. If you do not have a copy of the report of the Commission, let me know and I will be glad to send you one.

I am enclosing a couple of reprints from the NATIONAL MUNICIPAL REVIEW on the new New Jersey Constitution which may be of interest, and am also enclosing a complimentary copy of a little book I wrote some years ago on the making of the old New Jersey Constitution. I am enclosing this particularly for the discussion of the essentially conservative function and nature of constitutional conventions which you will find starting at page seven.

I don't know where the utterly inadequate figures regarding amendments of the New York Constitution came from. Between 1932 and 1943, 44 amendments were adopted and three that were submitted to the people were defeated. In the whole period since 1894, only 127 amendments have been added to the New York Constitution. Of course this is a good many according to my New Jersey standards but it must be remembered that New York has long had a fairly long and detailed constitution. The more detail there is in a constitution, the more often it needs to be amended.

I hope you keep up the good fight. Please keep us informed and call upon us for any further help.

Sincerely yours,

John H. Debout
Assistant Director

JHB:FS

copy National Municipal League
Carl R. Pforzheimer Building, 47 East 68th Street, New York 21
Telephone: LEhich 5-5700

December 4, 1956

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

Dear Mrs. Hargraves:

I take it from your letter of November 30 that the specific charge you now would like to refute is that it cost an unreasonable amount to bring the Missouri statutes in line with its new constitution. I've just talked with Dr. Chariton Chute of the Institute of Public Administration, who was the acting director of the Legislative Research Committee (Legislative Council) which prepared the legislation needed to implement the new constitution during the first year of its operation. He says his recollection is that the Committee obtained an extraordinary appropriation of \$100,000 for this purpose and spent probably around \$89,000. However, he says you can get more definite figures by writing William Nelson, Director of Research, Legislative Research Committee, State Capitol, Jefferson City, Mo. Mr. Nelson was on the staff when Dr. Chute was director of the Committee and would have access to all the records. I'm sure if you write him saying that you were doing so at the suggestion of Dr. Chute he will cooperate fully.

Even if the cost in Missouri had been a great deal more than it apparently was it would have been a very small price to pay in view of the overall importance of the new constitution. Furthermore, as Dr. Chute agreed in conversation with me, a good deal of the statutory revision or its equivalent might well have been done simply for the purpose of bringing the laws up to date even if there had been no revised constitution to force the issue. The truth is that any state would be well advised to spend a considerable amount of money in a periodic review of its general statutes.

I'm sure you recognize that the argument you are combatting is essentially "incompetent and immaterial," as the lawyers would say. Sometimes it is repeated innocently by people who haven't thought enough about the subject but usually this type of argument is offered with tongue in cheek by people who know better. The most disturbing thing about it to me is that it betrays a low opinion of the value of good laws, constitutional and statutory, to a democratic society.

As for the charge that the new constitutions have been too frequently amended, I think you really have the answers. It might be worth your while to ask Mr. Nelson to give you the record on amendments since the adoption of the new constitution in Missouri. I'm sure it wouldn't make a long list but it would be meaningless unless it were related to the frequency of amendment before the new constitution.

In the case of New Jersey, we have adopted one or perhaps two minor amendments and rejected two others since 1947. Certainly this does not represent any extraordinary burden on the people.

Please keep us informed of your activities in this connection and let us know any time we can be of further help.

Sincerely yours,

John H. Debut
Assistant Director

JHB:R

February 26, 1957

Mr. George W. Lawson
552 Fairview Ave. So.
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Lawson,

I want to express to you the appreciation of the League of Women Voters for your testimony on Monday in behalf of the constitutional convention bill. You have a combination of knowledge, experience and disinterestedness, which even a legislative committee cannot resist.

We know that a legislative hearing requires time and energy and is one thing more on your busy schedule, yet we hope that you will consent to appear before the Senate Judiciary Committee when it holds a hearing for the companion bill, S.F. 135. The Senate defeated a convention bill in 1955 and the same men are still there, alas, and with the same viewpoint, unless authority such as yours can be brought to bear.

The Judiciary Committee meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays at nine o'clock. As yet we do not know when the proponents for the bill will be heard, but we shall inform you as soon as we do.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Malcolm M. Hargraves
Chairman
CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

2/28/57

Dear Alene:

Am enclosing letters you requested to Star & Dispatch, Pioneer Press; I am sure it isn't as "violent" as you would like - I tried, but ended up being very sure it wasn't wise to mention names.

Am enclosing clipping from the Star giving the name of the new Employer's Ass'n. Boyd O. Sartell, v.p. Faribault Woolen Mills.

Grace sent me copy of Otto's delightful little book: "Yes, Minnesota has a constitution and it's a great const."

(over)

Notice it doesn't have a union bug
either; our lobbyists could (sneakily)
call attention to this if a liberal
legislator should mention the book.

Kthyl

Your plans sound super! Can't think
of anything else at the moment that
we can do. Will be wondering and
worrying Mon. a.m. Hope the committee
room is packed. Wish I could be there

Grassman

Home address: 117 West Howard
Hibbing, Minn.

February 26, 1957

Mrs. Charlotte Farrisich Luwe
Attorney at Law
Mankato, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Luwe:

You perhaps don't remember me, but I attended my very first league meeting in your office a good many years ago, and you may remember I worked in the law offices of Bob Pfau and Milt Mason from time to time between 1940 and 1943.

As you are well aware, the League has been supporting constitutional revision for 10 these many years, and believes that the convention method is the best way of accomplishing it. Although there is no organized opposition, the legislatures have been consistently voting down a proposal to submit the question of calling a convention to the people, and what we need now is lots of mail to offset the fear complex that seems to be our chief stumbling block - fear of change, fear of radicalism, fear of the people. *since 1949*

Knowing of your interest in the League and its program, I am wondering if you would be willing to write the Legislators in your district: Senator Val Imm voted against it in 1953 so a letter to him would be particularly helpful. The Senate killed it in the last session the day before the House was to vote on it, so we don't have the House votes and don't know how Arthur Ogle and Roy Schulz stand.

The current bill, House File #289 and Senate File #135 is now in the General Legislation Committee of the House - it's possible they may vote on it Monday, March 4th - and in the Senate Judiciary Committee. The strongest opposition to the bill is concentrated in the latter committee, and I am sure a letter from you to the chairman, (or any of the others) Thomas P. Welch, as well as the chairman of the House General Legislation Committee, Carl Hagland, and Senator Imm would carry a lot of weight.

we will be eternally grateful for anything you can do.

I do hope that some day we can again have a League in Mankato.

Sincerely,

Enc: Rev. of Minn. Const. & Courts
Roaring Farce, Facts &
Figures
Leg. bulletin 2/1/57

Mrs. Basil Young
President

*Copies sent to
Governor*

February 28, 1957

The Minneapolis Star
Minneapolis, Minn.

To the Editor:

Shall the people of Minnesota have a chance to decide for themselves whether or not they want a convention called to revise the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, or shall they again be denied that right?

The issue involved in the constitutional convention bill now before the Legislature is as simple as that. It seeks only to place the question where it belongs -- in the hands of the people.

If two-thirds of both House and Senate vote for it, it means they believe their constituents should have the opportunity to vote on the question in November, 1963. If it does not pass, the opposite will be true.

It is interesting to note that those who support this legislation fall into the one general category of public interest groups. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota is one of them. Its membership has studied the facts thoroughly and arrived at consensus through the democratic deliberative process of discussion and agreement at convention. Our unpaid lobbyists can testify in the Legislature, secure in the knowledge that they speak for 5000 league members in 84 local leagues throughout the state.

Those who oppose it fall into two general categories: 1) Special interest groups who want to keep the status quo and fear change or loss of special privilege, and 2) those who believe that the slow, expensive amendment method is good enough for Minnesota.

The League of Women Voters believes that Minnesota deserves something better than this snail's pace reform. It believes that a constitutional convention composed of delegates elected by the people, would be the most orderly, efficient and economical way of revising the Constitution.

Minnesota's Constitution needs improvement; there is little argument about that. Your readers may not all agree on what should be changed in our Constitution, and that is a good thing in a democracy. A constitutional convention would afford more opportunity for discussion and debate than a legislative session that is all too short and crowded with bills and other duties.

It would seem to me that every citizen, including those who have not made up their minds about the convention method, would agree that he should have the right to make this decision. If so, his legislators should know that he wants them to support this bill, House File 289, Senate File 135.

Mrs. Basil Young
President

February 28, 1957

The St. Paul Dispatch, Pioneer Press
St. Paul, Minn.

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Mrs. Basil Young
President

URGENT URGENT URGENT URGENT URGENT

Febr. 25, 1957

Mr. Otto Christenson, Executive Vice-President of the Minnesota Employers Association, spoke for one full hour this morning at the hearing for the OPPONENTS to the Constitutional Convention Bill before the General Legislation Committee of the House. Mr. Mike Galvin made a short statement in opposition, saying however, he spoke for himself and not as attorney for the railroads. The testimony was excellently prepared and powerfully presented, and although we see faults in his arguments, the fact remains that the committee was obviously impressed.

NOW IS THE TIMEfor all League people and especially their husbands and heads of organizations in your town to write supporting the theme that THE PEOPLE HAVE A RIGHT TO VOTE ON WHETHER THEY WANT A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OR NOT! If each of our 54 Leagues in the state will be responsible for even THREE (3) letters, quickly sent (this week) it may turn the trick.

Send one letter to

Honorable A. I. Johnson, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
St. Paul 1, Minnesota, one of the authors of H.R. 289

Honorable Carl Haglund, Chairman of the General Legislation Committee,
before whose committee the bill H.R. 289 is being heard

Honorable Joe Keith, introducing author of H.F. 289 AND
Your own representative in the House.

The vote may be taken Monday morning, March 4th, at 8:30a.m. in the Capitol, room 302. It is an OPEN HEARING and citizens have a right to be there. If you can come, and especially if you can get a MAN to come, to listen to the discussion and the vote, it will be helpful, our friends, the authors of the bill, tell us. DON'T BE LATE!

URGENT URGENT URGENT URGENT

57
Feb. 25, 1937

before
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and heads of organisations *in your towns*
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Your own representative in the House.

in room 302 at the Capitol

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February 15, 1957

Mr. Wm. Pearson
State Grange
Ogilvie, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Pearson,

We have just learned that the testimony by the proponents of the Constitutional Convention Bill be heard at 8:30 A.M. Monday morning, February 18th, in Room 302, at the Capitol. Hope you can be there to testify.

We're sorry that this notice is so short. It had been planned by the authors that a later public hearing in the evening would be held. But plans were changed, and this early A.M. hearing is now the plan.

Mrs. Hargraves asked me to let you know.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Harold L. Wilson
Executive Secretary

leg

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

84 SOUTH TENTH STREET, ROOM 406

MINNEAPOLIS 3, MINNESOTA

Atlantic 0941

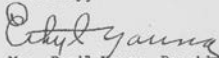
February 14, 1956

Dear Superintendent:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota is sponsoring an essay contest to encourage students at the high school level (grades 9 through 12) to acquaint themselves with the Constitution of Minnesota. The contest opens March 19 and will close April 30. Since the school curriculum suggested by the State Department of Education contains a study of the state constitution in the section entitled "Participation in State Government," we hope you will use this contest to stimulate student interest in this subject.

Please forward the enclosed contest information to your teachers and students. Additional copies of Contest rules are available on request. Will you let us know the approximate number of contest entrants?

Sincerely,



Mrs. Basil Young, President

February 12, 1957

Mrs. Elsbeth Parker
Local Government Chairman

Mrs. Frederick E. King
President

League of Women Voters of Minneapolis
84 South Tenth Street, Room 407
Minneapolis 2, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Parker and Mrs. King:

This is in reply to your letter of the 8th requesting permission to take action on two bills to be presented to the 1957 Legislature, both affecting items on your local program.

As described in your letter, the bill to set the Minneapolis tax levy for the City Council's current expense fund at 15 mills, would appear to be legislation affecting Minneapolis only, and no other locality would be involved. If this is true, then the State Board can grant you permission to support it. (Local Leaders Handbook, 3, page 10.)

However, from your letter, it does not appear clear to me that the proposed amendment to the Minnesota Municipal Housing and Redevelopment Act affects Minneapolis only. It would seem to amend the general law and affect all Minnesota municipalities, in which case you would of course not be able to take any action on it since it is not a state current agenda or continuing responsibility item. (Same Handbook reference)

I am sending a copy of your letter and my reply to Mrs. O. H. Anderson, Mahtomedi, state organization chairman, and asking her to check into it further, and if you have any further information, will you give it to her, and we can discuss it at our next board meeting on the 21st of this month.

Thank you for writing me, and I am sorry to restrict you in working for this needed legislation. My husband and I did some work in this field in Hibbing several years ago, and I know how frustrating the present provisions of the Housing and Redevelopment Act can be. But I know you will understand that, under the rules which the League has adopted, we cannot authorize action by a local league at the state level unless the measure affects only the local community.

cc: state office
D. Anderson

Sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young
President

Feb. 8, 1957

Mrs. Basil Young, President
League of Women Voters of Minnesota
117 W. Howard St.
Hibbing, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Young:

On Wednesday the Minneapolis Board voted support of two bills to be presented to the 1957 legislature.

One is an amendment to the Minnesota Municipal Housing and Redevelopment Act. In brief this bill would permit clearance and replanning of commercial and industrial areas as well as residential areas; redefine "blighted areas" to include areas that are predominantly open land so that they also could be redeveloped; allow the Minneapolis Housing Authority, with Council consent, to take over operation of Sumner Field; delete requirement that public housing tenants must be citizens of the U. S. (thereby facilitating relocation of displaced families); eliminate necessity to get consent of developer before making modifications in redevelopment plan after one or more parcels have been leased or sold (he could be protected by provisions in the lease or sales agreement); make it possible to use money in the special benefit tax fund (the tax revenue, above the amount collected from the area before redevelopment) to retire bonds issued for acquisition and clearance of land in the area reserved for public use (such as parks and schools); make the maximum levy for the local housing authority 1 mill instead of $\frac{1}{2}$ mill; permit the local governing body, if it deemed necessary, to supplement the funds of the local authority to enable the city to carry out an effective long-range urban renewal program.

The second is a bill to set the Minneapolis tax levy for the City Council's current expense fund at 15 mills (eliminating the present complicated procedure to compensate for the loss due to the homestead exemption and the repeal of the money and credits tax, and resulting in a slight increase in revenue).

Both of these proposals affect Minneapolis in areas which fall under items on our local program:

- Y
- 1) Item 2 - "Capital improvements: evaluation of long-range needs."
O.R. 4 - "Redevelopment and low-rent public housing."
 - 2) Item 1 - "Taxes: improved tax structure and new sources of revenue."

We wrote to members of the City Council urging their endorsement of the housing bill. If it progresses we would like to be in a position to ask the Hennepin County delegation to support it in the legislature. We would also like to be able to work with our legislators on the current expense fund bill if and when the time is right -- and this could be very soon.

Therefore we respectfully request approval for such action on the part of the Minneapolis League.

Cordially,

Mrs. Elisabeth Parker
Local Government Chairman

Mrs. Frederick E. King
President

cc: State office

THE MINNESOTA VOTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

VOL. 33

MAY-JUNE, 1955

NO. 6

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

State Program 1955-1957

"The Program consists of state governmental measures on which the League of Women Voters of Minnesota may take action. The Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities . . . constitute the Program."

—State By-Laws

CURRENT AGENDA

The Current Agenda is limited to such current state governmental issues as the state Convention chooses for concerted action. Action includes: 1. providing information; 2. building public opinion; and 3. supporting legislation.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will work for revision of the constitution of the State of Minnesota. (Principles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11*)

To do this it will:

- A. Build public opinion for the calling of a constitutional convention.
- B. Support revision of constitutional provisions for:
 1. Review of the constitution by periodic submission to the people of the question of calling a constitutional convention. (Principle 2)
 2. A workable amending process. (Principle 2)
 3. Fair and enforceable apportionment of the Legislature. (Principles 1, 2)
 4. Clearly fixed executive responsibility: (Principle 3)
 - a. Fewer elective offices;
 - b. Longer, uniform terms for elected executive officials;
 - c. Provision for self-executing succession to governorship;
 - d. Provision for an executive budget.
 5. Adequate time for consideration of legislation by the Legislature: (Principle 5)
 - a. More frequent regular sessions permitted and/or length of session determined by the Legislature itself;
 - b. Special sessions called at discretion of the Governor or the Legislature.
 6. A post-auditor appointed by and responsible to the Legislature. (Principles 3, 5)
 7. Increased home-rule for local governments: (Principles 2, 4)
 - a. Realistic restrictions on special legislation;
 - b. Broader provisions for adoption and amendment of home-rule charters.
- C. Study, for the purpose of supporting, revision of constitutional provisions for:
 1. An integrated and flexible tax article. (Principle 11)
 2. An article providing judicial reform. (Principle 5)

CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

Continuing Responsibilities are those positions on state governmental issues to which the League of Women Voters of Minnesota has given sustained attention, and on which it may continue to act, as determined by the state Convention.

- I. Reapportionment by statute. (Principles 1, 2)
- II. Fair Employment Practices Commission. (Principle 9)
- III. Party designation for legislators. (Principles 2, 3)
- IV. Civil service system. (Principles 5, 6)

* Principles are those established by the National Convention of 1954, covering Program at all levels.

THE CONVENTION STORY

"No workshops? Five-minute legislative reports? What did you do at the State Convention?"

Well—quite a lot—and with no time left over, either. If you were not there, here is a brief story of how the 1955-57 Program was made. If you were there, maybe the printed page will help you remember.

The St. Paul League of Women Voters was a gracious hostess, its president, Mrs. Don Y. Moore, welcoming us to our convention "home," the Lowry Hotel. Mrs. Basil Young officiated just as we would have expected her to—calmly, efficiently, and with charm. Her able alternates were Miss Barbara Stuhler and Mrs. Hamilton Lufkin.

The first morning we proceeded almost immediately to the business of the convention, the Program for 1955-57. As you know, on the opening day the delegates vote on what items they will consider for the Current Agenda and the Continuing Responsibilities (CR's). On the second day, the vote is taken which actually places items on the Program. Miss Stuhler presented the Current Agenda which had been put together by the State Board from suggestions sent in by 22 local Leagues. This appeared in your last *Voter*. The recommended item received a favorable vote for consideration.

Mrs. Allan Brown of St. Paul moved consideration of three non-recommended items for the Current Agenda:

"1. The LWV of Minnesota will continue to work on steps leading to a new constitution.

"2. The LWV of Minnesota will consider and recommend measures to improve the state finance and tax structure of the State of Minnesota.

"3. The LWV of Minnesota will make an evaluation of the provisions in the state laws for local government and home rule."

Number two was voted consideration; numbers one and three failed.

Mrs. John Neumaier of Hibbing moved consideration of this non-recommended item: "The LWV of Minnesota will promote the understanding of the financial problems of the public schools of Minnesota." The motion passed.

Next order of business was the CR's. Mrs. L. Vernon Meen presented the State Board proposals and moved consideration, which passed.

Mrs. Frank Dosse of Minneapolis moved consideration of "Civil Service System" as a non-recommended CR. The motion won the vote of the convention.

On Friday (the 13th) the proposed Program, with its added non-recommended items came in for lengthy discussion and numerous proposals to amend. There was considerable sentiment for limiting action in the coming biennium to working only for the calling of a constitutional convention. The debate was extremely informative. League members again demonstrated that

they know what they're talking about and how to express themselves. Final votes found the convention approving the recommended Current Agenda. The convention then substituted "Civil Service System" for the recommended CR on civil service which would have limited our support only to veterans preference modification. It then voted four CR's.

The convention further requested that the State Board provide information on school finances, sales tax, and the iron ore tax amendment.

Now a word on the Current Agenda. Everything found on page one under Current Agenda is the Current Agenda; it is *not* just the one-sentence statement. It consists of a statement of intent and three working parts.

Under "A" will come a concentrated public education job to get a constitutional convention called. "B" consists of constitutional specifics to the support of which this convention committed the LWV of Minnesota. These specifics will be used as particular arguments answering the question "What's the matter with our constitution?" and will prepare us when the convention finally is called. They may also, at the discretion of the State Board, be a basis for support of possible amendments, on the theory that our real goal is a better constitution—by whatever means is possible. Under "C" are two areas we have not adequately studied to date; after studying them, we may or may not support specific proposals.

The rest of this *Voter* will be devoted to very abbreviated notes on each of the "B" specifics. They will serve to orient us until more complete material can be prepared. Incidentally, you might want to file this *Voter* for future reference.

1. Periodic Review of the Constitution

The constitution now states that whenever two-thirds of the Legislature thinks it necessary to call a convention to revise the constitution, this question shall be submitted to the people at the next general election. Repeated failure of the Legislature to act has produced a situation where the people do not have reasonable access to their constitution. The Minnesota Constitutional Commission (MCC) has recommended that the Legislature be required to submit to the people every twenty years the question of calling a constitutional convention. The provision would be self-executing, would function automatically, and not require additional legislation to implement it. This will not result in frequent conventions, but the power of the people is there if they wish to exercise it.

2. The Amending Process

From 1858 to 1898, Minnesota had a very simple process for amending the constitution: proposal by a majority of both houses of the Legislature and ratification by a majority of the voters voting on the proposal. During this time, 66 amendments were proposed, 48 were adopted. In 1898, the amending process was made much

more difficult. It still takes only a majority of both houses to propose amendments, but it takes a majority of those voting at the election to ratify them. In addition, amendments may be submitted only at a general election. Since this change, 96 amendments have been proposed, only 31 have been adopted.

On the average, 67% of the voters participating in a general election vote on proposed constitutional amendments. An amendment, therefore, goes to the people at a general election with a 33% handicap; only 18% of those actually voting upon the measure are enough to defeat it!

The MCC has recommended that two-thirds of both houses be required to propose amendments, that they may be submitted to the people at either a general or a special election, and that only a majority of those voting on the amendment be required for adoption.

Minnesota has the easiest method of all states of proposal by the Legislature—a majority of those present and voting. It is one of six states where the voters have the hardest time ratifying. Several of the amendments adopted in recent years have passed only after they have been submitted several times and there have been extensive publicity campaigns by interested organizations. The will of the majority of informed and active voters has been defeated time and again.

3. Apportionment

The present apportionment of Minnesota legislative districts was made in 1913; there have been no changes since that time despite a growth of over a million people and widespread shifts in population. Although the constitution states that "the representation in both houses shall be apportioned equally throughout the different sections of the state, in proportion to the population thereof," House districts now vary from 7,290 to 107,246.

After studying reapportionment, League members decided on two approaches: a solution under the present constitutional provision, as represented in the Bergerud bill (see our CR I); an amendment to the constitution changing the basis for apportionment and including an enforcement provision to assure periodic reapportionment. Under the Current Agenda, we are concerned with the latter approach.

Proposed bases for a constitutional amendment fall into three classes: area compromise in the Senate; area compromise in the House; area compromise in both houses. Experience during the past legislative session would indicate that the most practical approach to the proposal is some compromise in both houses. It may be

unrealistic to assume that either house will vote to apportion itself by population and let the other house set up a broad area basis.

An enforcement provision was included in all the amendments considered during this session and seemed to be accepted by legislators as a necessity. Just what form it should take, however, is still open to question.

There is considerable need for a meeting of minds on this subject before a solution can be reached. Because its membership extends to all parts of the state and represents all of the different areas of thought on the problem, the League is in a particularly good position to bring these widely divergent ideas together.

4. Executive Responsibility

The constitution now provides for six elected executive officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Treasurer, Secretary of State, Auditor. The MCC recommended that three be eliminated as elected officers (Treasurer, Secretary of State, Auditor). The Minnesota Efficiency in Government Commission—Little Hoover Commission (LHC)—recommended adding the Attorney General to the list to be eliminated.

The issue here is popularly described as the short ballot—a principle for which the LWV has fought for many years. The long ballot developed out of the Jacksonian idea that if the people voted for a large number of officials from the governor down to and including the keeper of the dog pound, and did this often enough, their government would be democratic. The League believes, along with many governmental authorities, that democracy does not consist in voting or in performance of any other single act. The essence of democracy requires that the people shall maintain control over their government.

The principle of the short ballot would restrict officers chosen by election to policy-determining officers. It would: centralize responsibility and help insure more efficient administration; recognize that popular government consists in selection of officials whose key positions enable them to control policy and make them directly responsible to the voters; simplify the voter's task.

The terms of elected executive officials are for two years. Both the MCC and LHC recommended they be set at four years. Biennial election of the House would provide a means of expressing disapproval of any measures which are against the popular will. In 28 states, the term is four years; 20 states have the two-year term. The current trend is in the direction of the four-year term. The longer term would: permit development of administrative policies and give the state more efficient government; make possible greater economy in administration, reducing the inevitable extravagance and waste connected with more frequent changes; and further shorten the ballot.

The MCC proposed that succession to the governorship be clarified by providing that the Lieutenant Gover-

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Mrs. BARK YOUNG, President

ELANOR SALSBURY, Editor

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nor succeed the Governor, then the President pro tem of the Senate and then the Speaker of the House. After that, the oldest senator in age be authorized to convene the Senate to elect a President pro tem, who would immediately succeed to the governorship. A clear and continuing procedure for succession would prevent possible governmental turmoil.

The MCC recommended that the statutory requirement that the Governor submit a budget to the Legislature be made a constitutional one. The biennial budget has become so important in coordinating revenues and expenditures that the MCC added the budget should be presented within three weeks after the legislature convenes.

5. Legislative Sessions

Legislative business has greatly increased since the 90-day session was established in 1888. If the Legislature is to fulfill its duties adequately, it should be allowed to meet as often and as long as its responsibilities require.

The MCC recommended biennial sessions and other sessions as prescribed by law, and that the Legislature could decide within 75 days if it needed longer than 90 days in which to complete its business.

Many advocate annual sessions because: rapid changes in social and economic conditions require frequent sessions; legislation is a continuous process and cannot be confined to infrequent intervals; the Legislature needs continuity, a permanent secretariat and research staff; more economical administration would result as budgets would more nearly reflect actual needs.

Only the Governor may call a special session of the Legislature. He may not limit the matters to be considered. The MCC recommended that the Legislature be permitted to call special sessions and the Governor be allowed to limit the matters to be considered at a special session which he calls.

Minnesota has had 13 special sessions since it was admitted to the Union, increasing in frequency since the early days of the state.

Some students of the legislative process feel that the question of annual vs. biennial sessions would be largely resolved if legislatures could be called into special session by governors or by a majority of their members without undue restrictions on the measures to be considered. Others say, however, that they cannot be considered a substitute for annual sessions, with their more orderly distribution of the work load on the Legislature.

6. The Post-Auditor

Two types of financial audits are essential in state government. The pre-audit, prepared by the State Auditor, is a review of transactions before they are made. The post-audit is a review of transactions after they are completed, to learn if and how the money appropriated by the Legislature is being spent, and to determine the current financial standing of the government; this is

done by the Public Examiner, who is appointed by the Governor.

The MCC recommended that the elected office of State Auditor be eliminated, the pre-audit to be performed by an auditor directly responsible to the Governor. It further recommended the creation of a post-auditor selected by and directly responsible to the Legislature. His term would be six years. The MCC felt this to be one of its most important recommendations. The Legislature now appropriates the state's money but has no effective method of determining how its mandates are being carried out, and what changes should be made by law for the more efficient handling of public funds. The creation of a legislatively-chosen post-auditor would insure financial accountability to that body which has the constitutional responsibility for the raising and spending of state funds. Authorities in the field of finance and special study commissions of several states agree almost without exception that the post-auditor should be responsible to the Legislature. In Minnesota, the MCC, and LHC and the Legislative Research Committee have made this recommendation.

7. Home Rule

Much local legislation is passed by the Legislature in the form of special legislation. This means that the Legislature classifies the political subdivision for which it wishes to legislate and then enacts a law that is general in language but actually applies only to a single locality. For example, a law enacted under the guise of general legislation yet restricted to "a county with a population of more than 10,000 but less than 15,000, according to the 1940 federal census, and containing more than 26 full and fractional congressional townships." There is only one county in the state like this.

The result of such special legislation is that undue demands are made on the time of individual legislators, the feeling of localism is accentuated in the Legislature, log-rolling practices are encouraged, local affairs are brought into the state-wide political arena, multiplicity of laws sometimes results in actual contradiction of provisions applying to a single community, and control of local affairs is taken from local citizens—often without their knowledge.

The MCC major recommendations were: a general law to prevail over a home-rule charter only if the law so states; name of community permitted in special legislation and approval of local citizens required; cities, villages, counties permitted home-rule charters; consolidation of counties and cities; city-county organization by home-rule charter, not by legislative action.

1957

64-7484

February 3, 1957

Mr. Vernon Welch, Legislative Director
Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation
Commerce Building
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Welch:

I wonder whether we have made clear in telephone conversations with you through our Legislative Chairman, Mrs. Guthrie, the issue involved in the two bills, S.F. 135 and H.F. 289, now in committees? The League of Women Voters does not expect any group to speak in behalf of an issue which it does not support. The issue, however, is the right of the people to vote on how the Constitution should be revised. The Constitution provided a hundred years ago for the people to decide whether a convention should be held to revise it. There seems to be no discussion about the fact that revision is needed. The amendments which confront the voter at each general election are proof of that. Nine bills to amend the constitution were introduced in the Senate in one day and the end is not yet.

The Secretary of State estimates that one fifth to one quarter of election costs are due to amendments. If one averages the state and local costs of amendments, using the conservative one-fifth figure, in the last four elections, he comes up with approximately \$100,000 for each. The highway amendment which was of concern to rural and urban people alike, had been submitted in one form or another four times. In addition there had been the time and expense of interim committees to study the problems involved. Amendments do not come cheaply.

Reapportionment of legislative districts would be only one matter scrutinized by a convention. Those who think that a reapportionment formula should rest on area as well as population, should be the more anxious for a constitutional change, because the present provision provides, as you know, for apportionment of representation "equally throughout the state in proportion to the population".

The entire population, rural, urban, suburban, is affected by constitutional changes. There is statewide agreement that changes are needed. There are those who think that a convention is a more thorough, orderly, effective and, in the long-run, cheaper way than amendments to bring about changes and they would like an opportunity to submit their view to the judgment of the electorate. Does not this right of representative government come within the scope of the Farm Bureau's concern?

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Malcolm Hargraves, Chairman
Constitutional Revision

cc - Doris Guthrie

Jan 1957

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

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

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

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

Rules of the House
Parliamentary Procedure
Questions and Answers

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

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

Drafting and Processing of Bills
Questions and Answers

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17

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

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

Governor	Attorney General
Lieutenant Governor	State Auditor
Secretary of State	Treasurer

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

Visits to Executive and Administrative Department Offices of

Governor - Orville L. Freeman (Room 130)
Lieutenant Governor - Karl F. Rolvaag (Room 239)
Secretary of State - Joseph L. Donovan (Room 126)
Attorney General - Miles Lord (Room 102)
State Auditor - Stafford King (Room 123)
State Treasurer - Val Bjornson (Room 124)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18

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

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

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

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

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

VISITS TO STATE DEPARTMENTS

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

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

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

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

Afternoon - Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

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

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

Afternoon - Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

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

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

Afternoon - Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24

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

Afternoon - Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

University of Minnesota - St. Paul Campus

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

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

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

Patricia Graf, Grade 12
Age: 17
St. Anthony High School
Llano, Nobles County

JAN 30 1957

PR- F2D4B 162
Leg- F2D2D 1957
First Prize in the Essay Contest on
"Our Minnesota Constitution"
sponsored in the spring of 1956 by
the League of Women Voters of Minn.
presented to Minnesota Senators,
January 31, 1957

MINNESOTA'S ONLY CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

1857! A Constitutional Convention, consisting of 108 members, was authorized to meet at the state capitol to write a constitution and submit it to the people of the territory of Minnesota. At that time, however, Minnesota was having party trouble. The Republican Party was just emerging; the Democrats were in power. The two parties were on the "outs". The Republicans came to the capitol and tried to find out when the Democrats wanted to start. The Democrats wouldn't talk to the Republicans but finally sent a note saying, "To meet at the usual hour for the assembling of parliamentary bodies of the United States." The Republicans did not know when this was, so they stayed up all night and waited. The next day at 11:43 AM the Democrats marched in, called the convention to order, adjourned and marched out.

This was the only time the convention met as a whole. After this the Republicans and Democrats organized separately, each claiming to be the legal Constitutional Convention. Finally, it was decided to appoint a Conference Committee of five from each side. This Conference Committee of ten was the Constitutional Convention of 1857.

For six days the committee tried to piece the two constitutions together, using the one made by the Republicans and the other by the Democrats, favoring, however, the Democratic version. No settlement could be made on Negro suffrage and it seemed that two constitutions would have to be submitted to the people after all. But then the Republicans gave in and the committee finished on August 28. The Democratic leader would not sign with the Republicans so two copies had to be made. The delegates went home, most of them disgusted. The sixteen copyists who worked on the two documents made so many differences in the two constitutions that it is difficult to print an absolutely correct text.

The question now was, would the people approve the Constitution? The majority of the people were for it but mostly because Minnesota would now be a state and that is what everyone wanted. And so, on May 11, 1858, Minnesota was admitted into the Union. The birth of our State and of our State Constitution became a reality as the result of our first and last Constitutional Convention.

The changes or amendments which have been made in our Constitution date back to four weeks before Minnesota was even officially made a state. Since then there have been eighty-three amendments made to our Constitution, but never a revising convention.

The cause for delay in this much-needed revision is controversy in the legislature. According to Article I of the Constitution, the people are to decide whether or not to have a Constitutional Convention. They can only do this when the question is submitted to them at the polls, but the legislature has so far refused to allow this.

Some reasons for the revision of our Constitution are: (1) a constitution should be clear and brief. The more words, the greater the need for interpretation. Our state Constitution has 20,000 words. (2) It has inflexible language which means that it cannot be stretched to interpret certain situations. (3) There are 83 amendments, most of them concerning matters which should not have required an amendment. (4) The Constitution restricts home rule, making it necessary for the communities to go the legislature for special legislation. Special legislation is prohibited by the Constitution, so this makes little sense. (5) Obsolete provisions of the Constitution are ignored and not enforced by law. (6) The state finances have been dealt with in over half of the amendments; Article IX alone has been amended nineteen times.

Patricia Graf

-3-

The Minnesota Constitution is a confusing document because it was drawn up in a hurry and patched up inefficiently. Some of the provisions are exceedingly lengthy. The Sixteenth Amendment, adopted in 1920 authorizing the state highway system, contributed one-fourth of the total.

A constitution is supposed to be a system of law -- but how can the constitution be a law when so many of the provisions are ignored? The "State Constitution" should be revised so as to give Minnesota a real, a working constitution!

Introduced by Holmquist, E.L.Andersen, Schultz
January 23, 1957
Ref. to Com. on Judiciary

S. F. No. 135
Companion to H.F.
Ref. to H. Com.

289
General Legislation

A BILL

FOR AN ACT PROPOSING A CONVENTION TO
REVISE THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE
OF MINNESOTA.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. There shall be submitted to the electors, at the general election to be held in November, 1958, the question:

"Shall there be a convention to revise the Constitution of the State of Minnesota"

Sec. 2. The electors may vote by ballot for or against a convention. The election shall be conducted and the returns thereof made, canvassed, and certified in the manner provided by law for general elections. The form of the ballot shall be:

Shall there be a convention to revise the
Constitution of the State of Minnesota?

Yes _____

No _____

The voter shall designate his choice by a cross mark opposite the word "Yes" or the word "No" in the space provided therefor. If a majority of the voters voting at the election shall have voted for a convention, the legislature at its session next succeeding this election shall provide for calling such convention.

* * * *

Introduced by Grittner, Oberg, Hartle,
Karth, Bergeson
January 16, 1957
Ref. to Com. on Elections

P.D. Bill
File F-2 D-201957
H. F. No. 41
Companion S. F. ____
Ref. to Com.

A BILL

FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS;
AMENDING MINNESOTA STATUTES 1953,
SECTION 202.02.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 202.02 is amended to read:

202.02 Subdivision 1. Candidates for office shall be chosen at such primary election by voters of several political parties and not otherwise. The chief justice and the associate justices of the supreme court and judges of the district, probate and municipal courts, ~~and all members of the state legislature~~ and all elective county officers and municipal officers in cities of the first and second class, shall be nominated upon separate non-partisan ballots, as hereinafter provided. All qualified and duly registered voters may participate in the choosing of candidates for city office as provided for in the city charter of cities having home rule charters; the names of all candidates for nomination for the office of chief justice, associate justice of the supreme court, judge of the district court, probate and municipal court ~~and all members of the state legislature~~ and all elective county officers, and all municipal officers in cities of the first and second class, shall be placed upon a separate primary ballot hereinafter designated as "ballot of candidates to be nominated without party designation".

Subd. 2. No party or other designation, except as above, shall be placed on such ballot except as herein provided, nor shall any candidate filing for nomination on said ballot be permitted or required to state his party affiliation on said filing affidavit. All provisions of law relating to the nomination of party candidates as to the form of ballot, including rotation of names, the endorsement thereon, voting, marking ballots, counting, returning and canvassing results, shall apply to nomination of said officers, except that the tally books and returns shall be made separately, and except that non-partisan offices shall not be classified on the ballot or otherwise. Each voter shall be entitled to vote a non-partisan primary ballot without reference to his party affiliation.

Subd. 3. The two candidates for nomination for each such non-partisan office who shall receive the highest number of votes, ascertained as provided by this act, shall be declared the nominees and their names shall be placed upon the election ballot, without party designation, and when two or more persons are to be elected for the same office, at a general election running at large in a city, county district, or in this state, the non-partisan nominees to be placed upon the general election ballot shall be the number of candidates not exceeding twice the number of such persons to be elected for the same office which shall receive the highest number of votes at such primary election; provided, however, that when only two persons file for the nomination for any non-partisan office, or not more than twice the number of persons to be elected to any non-partisan office file for the nomination thereof, their names shall not be placed upon the non-partisan primary ballot, but said persons shall be considered and shall be the nominees for such office and their names shall be placed upon the general election ballot as such non-partisan nominee. Nothing herein shall prevent the nomination of candidates by groups, individuals or so-called political parties which cannot be recognized as such, by certificate of voters to the number hereafter specified. The names of candidates nominated by certificates for offices herein above designated as non-partisan shall have no party or other designation on the certificate or on the election ballot.