



League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

Copyright Notice:

This material may be protected by copyright law (U.S. Code, Title 17). Researchers are liable for any infringement. For more information, visit www.mnhs.org/copyright.

CURRENT AGENDA

- I. Constitutional Revision - support;
 - A. Calling of a convention;
 - B. Amendment providing for periodic submission to the people of the question of calling a constitutional convention;
 - C. Amendment providing fair and enforceable apportionment of the Legislature.
- II. Evaluation of Minnesota election laws and procedures; work for changes if needed.

CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

- I. Support revision of constitutional provisions for:
 - A. Workable amending process;
 - B. Clearly fixed executive responsibilities;
 - C. Adequate length of legislative session;
 - D. Post-auditor appointed by and responsible to Legislature;
 - E. Increased home rule for local government.
- II. Reapportionment by statute.
- III. Fair Employment Practices Commission.
- IV. Party designation for legislators.

LEGISLATION

The Legislative Chairman's Notebook should contain: Local League Handbook, Publications Catalogue, Tips on Carrying Out Program, (available from the LHV of U.S.); Ninety Days of Lawmaking, Legislative Report 1957, A Unit Meeting on Legislative Action, Legislative Etiquette, Do's and Don'ts of Lobbying, Members of Minnesota Legislature, Legislative and Congressional districts of local Leagues in Minnesota; Map of Minnesota showing legislative districts, Lobby by Letter, Legislative Newsletter*, all publications on state program - constitutional revision, reapportionment, party designation for legislators, PERC, (available from LHV of Minnesota, starred items ready in the fall); your local League Bulletin and By-laws.

What can we do to push the "big three" through the next legislative session? Your Legislative Committee proposes that we work in the following ways on these three major reforms needed in Minnesota - constitutional revision, reapportionment and party designation for legislators.

First, we stress appointing a legislative chairman in each local League. It is also important that she be acquainted with the duties, which are:

1. arrange tours for her own League
2. be informed on the status of each bill
3. be responsible for calls to action
4. lobby at home
5. give a report to her League at the end of the session.

Our aim this year is to stress lobbying at home before the legislator leaves for the Capitol. Suggestions for lobbying at home are:

1. invite the candidate to some local function
2. talk with him informally about the League program
3. congratulate him on filing
4. give him material on program whenever possible and preserve contact.

The July-August Minnesota Voter will feature lobbying and letter writing and will advertise the Legislative Newsletter, to sell subscriptions. ~~the newsletter will cost \$1.00~~ will be aimed at the unit members to provide information, arouse interest, and get action on state legislation. There will be 8 to 10 issues, one every other week starting right after Christmas. The last issue will be a Legislative Report, probably in an enlarged issue of the Voter.

September is the primary election and if you have not congratulated the winning candidates ~~the state office will mail the candidates~~ the three folders on the "big three."

In October the Legislative Workshop will be held and will feature opponents as well as supporters of our bills to sharpen our wits. At this workshop the 1959 edition of the Lobby by Letter Kit will be unveiled. This workshop is planned for ~~two representatives~~ from each local League in Minnesota.

After the November election contact the winning candidate in person if possible, or by letter, and inform him that you hope to see and talk with him on the League's legislative program before the session.

In December a Training Meeting on how to lobby in person will be held for a small group of well informed members to act as volunteer lobbyists at the Capitol.

During the session, ~~all of us on the League will be involved for 90 days of law-making~~ the Legislative Newsletter will keep you advised on the status of our bills and many articles pertaining to the Legislature.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
March 1958 030658D

WORKSHOP ON REACHING PUBLIC THROUGH MASS COMMUNICATIONS

GENERAL SUGGESTIONS FOR ALL MEDIA

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
March 1958 030658D

WORKSHOP ON REACHING PUBLIC THROUGH MASS COMMUNICATIONS

GENERAL SUGGESTIONS FOR ALL MEDIA

WHAT IS NEWS? WHEN IS IT NEWS?

NEWSPAPERS

RADIO

TELEVISION

Legislative Activities

KIND OF ACTION TAKEN: *Our emphasis has been on "at-home" lobbying by local leagues.*

in behalf of
✓ Lobbying—We have seven expert lobbyists in the Capitol this year testifying on League legislation. These people let us know when we need constituent pressure on whom, and we in turn notify the local Leagues involved so that they can write letters, talk with their legislators over the weekend, or send wires if necessary. The seven lobbyists are also responsible for contacting legislators from areas where we have no League so that they understand the ways and whereof of the League position.

✓ Calls for Action—We have sent out six calls for action, but with two exceptions, they have been tailored to the particular needs of the bill so that pressure could be applied to a few specific legislators directly involved with the progress of the bill in committee. Through the Capitol Letter we are informing the membership of the progress of our measures and what they can do to help.

✓ Informing the membership: This session we instituted a Capitol Letter, published every two weeks and costing \$1 for 10 issues. We have 1170 subscribers and feel that the membership is better informed on the League activities in the Capitol thanks to this publication. *Major Editorial Assn*

✓ Informing the public: We are releasing news material through MEN which covers 500 local newspapers throughout the state. Although results were disappointing at first, between 50 and 60 newspapers have used at least one release.

✓ Informing the legislators: In October 1957 the 1957 Legislative Report and a form letter was sent to legislators telling them of the newly elected State Board members. In January, 1958 legislators received a publication entitled "Will an Area Amendment Settle Reapportionment in Minnesota?". In July 1958 Candidates Questionnaires were sent out. Local Leagues were responsible for interviewing and collecting the questionnaires. In October 1958 three publications on our state program were mailed to all successful primary candidates for the state legislature in areas where we had no Leagues. Local Leagues were urged to do the same for their elected Representatives and Senators. In November 1958 letters of congratulations were mailed to all newly elected legislators, and state publications were included in their mailing.

✓ Informing local Leagues: We had a Legislative Workshop in October, 1958. This time we invited legislators who opposed the League position to ~~talk~~ give us their reasons for opposition. This proved very stimulating for the League representatives who attended, and the question periods were lively. We emphasized the role of the local League in lobbying, reviewed past League activity and anticipated our coming action in this session. In February we provided a Legislative Day for local League representatives and this gave out-state representatives an opportunity to testify before the committee hearing our reapportionment bills in the House. They also heard ~~representatives from the press~~ discuss this session, the prognosis *and* on our bills, and what sort of ~~data~~ *they were looking for when gathering the press*

newspapers
wanted data for editorials and stories. We also mailed to all local Leagues the following publications: Lobby by Letter kit, Legislative Responsibilities, Legislative Tours, Legislative Observers, Simplified Map of Minnesota Capitol, Legislative Etiquette, The Do's and Don'ts of Lobbying.

✓ Legislative Observers: This program was open to all Leagues but has been most helpful to those Leagues within comfortable driving distance of the Capitol. It amounts to a short course in government and from it we hope to draw those who will be most active in the legislative program next session. Sixty-two women from 19 Leagues signed up, and ~~saw~~ *seventeen* have attended three or more of the five sessions we have held so far. They meet every other ~~week~~ *night*, attend committee meetings and legislative sessions as observers, and listen to speakers who are prominent in the state legislative or administrative set up. We hope to use some of them as Interim Commission observers when the session is over, a few as lobbyists in 1961 perhaps.

and
Bipartisan Committee

BRIEF DISCUSSION OF BILLS

Election Laws: Legislation embodying the recommendations of the Interim Commission has been introduced in both houses. The intent of the Commission was to clarify the language pertaining to present election laws, and remove obsolete and contradictory material. Passed the Senate.

Constitutional Convention: This bill died 45 minutes after it was introduced in the Senate Judiciary Committee. The Minnesota League has tried for 12 years to put before the voters the question of whether there should be a convention to revise our 100-year-old constitution.

Reapportionment: The League is supporting both an amendment and a statute to reapportion. The fate of these bills is not known as yet since the session is still in progress.

Party Designation: The League supports the need for party designation of legislators. This bill was debated twice on the floor of the House. During the second debate, crippling amendments were added and it was referred to the House Judiciary Committee. The League is still hopeful that it will pass the lower house this session.

KIND OF LEGISLATURE?

Very slow-moving so far. Perhaps the lack of party designation makes this legislature unresponsive, perhaps it is public apathy but at any rate the press, and political scientists, ^{even legislators} have also commented that this legislature seems to be slow-moving, even irresponsible. With only 25 days remaining in the 1959 session, not a single piece of major legislation has passed both houses, and the bulk of it is not even out of committee.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED

Thinking that

We have testified and been present at all committee meeting where our bills were being heard (in spite of the fact that the Senate Committees are meeting at 8 a.m.). We have had excellent press from the Minneapolis papers which have wide distribution. We have been working with a Bi-Partisan Committee composed of Democrats and Republicans (the party platforms of both political groups agree in general on the need for party designation, reapportionment and the need for constitutional revision). Although representatives from both parties have testified in behalf of party designation and reapportionment, ~~as~~ there are basic differences between these camps and we have been most disappointed with the results. We feel that our local Leagues are doing an excellent job and feel directly involved with the legislative program. Our program has not made much progress in spite of this. At the moment it looks as though the Election Laws bill stands the best chance. It looks as though crippling amendments to our reapportionment ~~measures~~ ^{will} are likely ~~and will~~ make it impossible for us to support the measures in the end. Party Designation and Constitutional Convention will never make it. On the bright side, we hope we have a better informed and more actively involved membership and perhaps next time we will have a more responsive legislature.

insert p.1

will probably

*Legislative Report
State Convention
May - 1989*

Mary: Just as the League of Women Voters is accustomed to looking toward each new legislative session with hope and optimism, so ~~is it~~ prepared to look backward with disappointment and cynicism. This session the disappoint^{ments} were great in scope but few in number, while the successes were many and consequential. I want to review both briefly for you today and while I am doing so I want you to meet the people who worked as League representatives in the various legislative tasks.

As I have done so frequently during, and before, the session, I want to call upon my more than able and always willing secretary, Pat O'Connor. She's going to help me tell the story. And as usual I will hand her a not too pleasant task - that of telling about a disappointment.

PAT: ONE OF OUR TWO BILLS WHICH FAILED WAS THAT CALLING FOR A VOTE ON A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. THE BILL DID NOT COME BEFORE THE HOUSE, SINCE IT WAS KILLED EARLY AND SWIFTLY IN THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE BY A MOTION FOR INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT. AS WILMA DAVIDSON, LOBBYIST FOR THE BILL, SAID IN HER REPORT, "THE FINAL CRUSHING BLOW WAS SENATOR LAURENMAN'S EXPLANATION OF HIS VOTE FOR THE MOTION: HE SAID, 'IF THERE WERE ANY DEMAND AT ALL FOR THIS PROPOSAL, SUPPORTERS WOULD HAVE COME TO THE CAPITOL AND THIS HEARING. SINCE THERE IS NO POPULAR DEMAND, I FEEL DUTY-BOUND TO MY PEOPLE TO VOTE AGAINST THIS BILL.'" AND WILMA CONTINUED, "THIS SEEMS A SAD

COMMENTARY ON THE TWELVE YEARS OF WORK BY THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, BUT IT SEEMS ALSO TO REVEAL OUR WEAKNESS."

Mary:

Unlike the constitutional convention bill, party designation, followed by Laverne Graham, met its death in the House, where the bill was sent back to committee by a close vote of 61 to 65. An attempt, ^{failed} late in the session, failed to reopen the matter. While we were only slightly hopeful of the passage of this bill, we were quite unprepared for its failure in the House where it had passed in 1957. It seems obvious that the legislature is determined to hang on as long as possible to its "independence" - "independence from the voter" as Professor Harold Chase so aptly put it.

Now, Pat, for a look at two issues where there was neither disappointment nor success.

PAT: FIRST, IN THE FIELD OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES, WATCHED OVER BY MARION WATSON, ON THE MANY PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO INCLUDE NEW FACTORS SUCH AS AGE AND HOUSING, THE LEAGUE TOOK NO STAND BECAUSE THESE WERE MATTERS WHICH HAD NOT RECEIVED LEAGUE STUDY. NONE OF THE AMENDMENTS WERE ENACTED INTO LAW.

SECOND, IN THE FIELD OF REAPPORTIONMENT, WHICH IS A MATTER OF LEGISLATIVE CONSIDERATION EVEN AT THIS TIME: BOTH HOUSES PASSED A REAPPORTIONMENT AMENDMENT AND A STATUTE. IN THE HOUSE, THE GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION

NARROWLY PASSED THE HOUSE IN AMENDED FORM; THE ONLY PROPOSED AMENDMENT WHICH RECEIVED LEAGUE SUPPORT, IT WAS POPULARLY KNOWN AS THE COUNTY REPRESENTATION PLAN. THE HOUSE ALSO PASSED AN AMENDED VERSION OF THE BERGERUD-POPOVICH STATUTORY REAPPORTIONMENT BILL. RELUCTANTLY SUPPORTED BY THE LEAGUE, WE WERE MOST DISAPPOINTED WHEN ITS EFFORTIVENESS WAS MADE CONTINGENT ON THE PASSAGE OF AN AREA AMENDMENT.

LATER IN THE SESSION, THE SENATE PASSED ITS AMENDMENT PROPOSAL. OPPOSED BY THE LEAGUE, IT PRETTY MUCH FROZE PRESENT DISTRICTING. THE SENATE, TOO, PASSED A VERSION OF THE BERGERUD-POPOVICH BILL.

FACED WITH ~~THE~~ DISSIMILAR PROPOSALS, THE MATTER WAS REFERRED TO A TEN-MAN CONFERENCE COMMITTEE WHERE IT IS STILL UNRESOLVED. BETTY KANE, WHO HAS DONE SO MUCH FOR THE LEAGUE AND THE STATE ITSELF ON THIS ISSUE, SUMMED UP THE POSSIBILITIES OF FUTURE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ACTION: THEY ARE FOUR IN NUMBER:

1. NO AGREEMENT ON EITHER STATUTE OR AMENDMENT - FAIRLY LIKELY
2. AGREEMENT ON BOTH STATUTE AND AMENDMENT - PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE, UNLESS TIED TOGETHER
3. AGREEMENT ON AN AMENDMENT ALONE - VERY UNLIKELY
4. AGREEMENT ON A STATUTE ALONE - THE MOST LIKELY OF THE FOUR.

BETTY ALSO SAID, "SEVERAL LEGISLATORS WHO WANT REAPPORTIONMENT BADLY FEAR THE LAST EVENTUALITY BECAUSE THE SENATE IS LEFT PRETTY MUCH INTACT, THE HOUSE AREA CONCESSIONS HAVE BEEN STRENGTHENED, YET REAPPORTIONMENT WOULD PROBABLY NOT

1970
RECUR AT LEAST TILL ~~1970~~. THEY THINK EITHER THE FEDERAL COUNT OR THE 1960
CENSUS WOULD BRING A BETTER SETTLEMENT. OTHERS ARE WILLING TO SACRIFICE TRULY
ADEQUATE REPRESENTATION SINCE OUR CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS WOULD REMAIN
INTACT."

Mary: In addition to reapportionment, proposed amendments to the constitution
are receiving legislative attention during the special session.

Now for a pleasant task - a look at our successes....

One success was actually scored at the polls in November when voters
accepted the controversial Amendment No. 1. In the words of Anne Green, our
home rule legislative chairman, the improvements brought about under Amendment
One are "not ideal, but substantial." They are

(1) Special laws are now easily identified by name of the community affected

(2) Special laws require local governing body approval to become effective

(3) Home Rule Charters should be easier to adopt and amend with the new

~~55% 2/3~~ majority vote requirement

(4) County home rule is available to those who wish to use it

(5) The constitutional provisions allow for further improvements in the
local government statutes.

BAT: A SECOND SUCCESS CAME IN THE FIELD OF ELECTION LAWS. THE BILL WHICH CARRIED
OUT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERIM COMMISSION, PASSED BOTH HOUSES IN

SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT FORM. REMOVAL OF ONE CONTROVERSIAL AMENDMENT BY A CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CLEARED THE WAY FOR FINAL APPROVAL AFTER THE CLOCK WAS COVERED. ^{and} IT SEEMS VERY LIKELY THAT ANOTHER INTERIM COMMISSION WILL BE APPOINTED TO BRING FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE 1961 LEGISLATURE.

THE PASSAGE OF A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT, WHICH WILL REMOVE THE 30-DAY PRECINCT RESTRICTION ON OTHERWISE QUALIFIED VOTERS AND WILL ALSO REMOVE THE OBSOLETE PROVISIONS REGARDING INDIANS VOTING, WAS AN UNEXPECTED BONUS WHICH CAME LATE IN THE SESSION. COMMONLY REFERRED TO, IN LEAGUE CIRCLES AT LEAST, AS THE "KUDERLING" AMENDMENT, IT AND THE OTHER ELECTIONS BILL WERE USHERED THROUGH THE LEGISLATURE UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF LOUISE KUDERLING.

Mary: Now, let's turn to some other legislative successes with which the passage of bills was only indirectly concerned. These were League information efforts directed toward the public, the membership and the legislature itself.

Beginning in October 1957, with last session's legislative report, several publications were sent to legislators prior to the session. During the session several communications stating the League's position on specific bills were sent and our lobbyists ^{and personal} gave direct/information service.

P AT: THE PROGRAM FOR INFORMING THE MEMBERSHIP WAS FIVE-FOLD:

FIRST, A LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOP HELD LAST OCTOBER. LEGISLATORS WHO OPPOSED THE LEAGUE'S STAND WERE INVITED TO GIVE THEIR SIDE OF THE STORY - AND THIS PROVED VERY STIMULATING ^{to} ~~for~~ THE REPRESENTATIVES OF 30 LEAGUES WHO ATTENDED.

SECOND, CAPITOL LETTER, OUR LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER (ABLY EDITED BY LUELLA NEWSTROM) WAS INAUGURATED. THE 1,095 SUBSCRIPTIONS, MORE THAN TO ANY SIMILAR PUBLICATION AMONG THE MANY STATE LEAGUES, SHOWED THAT MEMBERS WERE ANXIOUS FOR THIS TYPE OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE LEGISLATURE.

THIRD, LEGISLATIVE DAY IN FEBRUARY FOUND MEMBERS FROM 35 LEAGUES LISTENING TO NEWSPAPERMEN DISCUSS THE SESSION. IT ALSO GAVE OUT-STATE LEAGUERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE REAPPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE.

FOURTH, OUR LEGISLATIVE OBSERVERS PROGRAM, WELL PLANNED BY LAST SESSION'S LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN DORIS GUTHRIE, WAS INSTITUTED AS A KIND-OF LEAGUE TRAINING COURSE IN STATE GOVERNMENT. FROM THE 62 WOMEN WHO SIGNED UP, WE HOPE TO FIND WILLING WORKERS FOR FUTURE LEGISLATIVE AND OTHER STATE PROGRAM WORK.

FIVE, MANY LEAGUE MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS WHICH WERE PLANNED BY THEIR LOCAL LEAGUES - SUCH AS LUNCHEONS WITH THEIR LEGISLATORS, TOURS TO THE CAPITOL, ETC. THERE WERE AT LEAST 80 SUCH EVENTS THAT WE KNOW OF.

Mary: Our program of informing the public began before the election. We were very pleased to have Minneapolis Tribune and other local newspaper cooperation in printing candidates' replies to questionnaires. Local League candidates meetings, as usual, were extremely well received.

less, with?

PAT: ANOTHER NEW VENTURE THIS SESSION WAS THE WRITING OF A BI-WEEKLY NEWS RELEASE ON
LEGISLATIVE HAPPENINGS. ^{Carroll} ~~LAST~~ EDITED BY LILLIAN JENSEN, IT WAS SENT TO ~~THE~~
500 NEWSPAPERS THROUGH THE MINNESOTA EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION. WHILE SOME
NEWSPAPERS USED ALL RELEASES, AND SOME ONLY ONE OR TWO, LILY ESTIMATES THAT
88,000 FAMILIES WERE "EXPOSED" TO ONE OR MORE RELEASES.

Mary: I think you will agree with me, when we look back, that this legislative
session had more success than failure for the League of Women Voters. In
view of what you have read or heard in letters to the editor, editorials,
radio and TV programs, I hope you will not think I am an incurable optimist.
The League, of course, is disappointed with the treatment given to party
designation and constitutional convention - the more disappointed because
these are issues which have wide support throughout the state ^{here} by the political
parties and other citizen organizations.

But today when we are assembled in convention to plan the future is hardly the
time for accusations, threats or criticisms of the past. Instead it is a time
for thinking about how to do the job better; how to inform more people of the
need for these governmental changes, how to increase the number of individuals
and organizations who will work with us and how to strengthen our own political
prestige. The 1959 session brought us a measure of success - and we liked the
taste of it - ~~we'll~~ we'll be back for more in 1961.

- Pause -

Mary: Now before I give you an opportunity to put some questions to these experts,

I want to take time to thank them for their work for the League and for their personal help to me. I also want to thank another person who has worked with me often, in her usual out-of-the-footlights manner - Eleanor Salisbury.

Will you join me in giving them all our thanks? (Mary leads applause and the curtain slowly fades.....)

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

LEGISLATIVE REPORT -- prepared for presentation at State Convention, May 20-21, 1959, by the state lobbyists and members of the Legislative Committee: Meses. Donald Guthrie, Paul O'Connor, Reynold Jensen, Eugene Newstrom, Stancky Kane, Edgar Kuderling, Kenneth Green, H.Watson, E.C.Davidson, Wm. J. Graham, Jr., and Mrs. Homer Hantle, Chairman.

This summary will be included in the final issue of the Capitol Letter and will be mailed to every League member throughout the State.

The legislative activities during the past two years have been varied, interesting and disappointing. In order to review legislation, it would be appropriate to summarize the events and activities during the past two years. Every effort was made by the state Board and the legislative committee to keep the public, the membership and legislator informed of the plans and accomplishments on the legislative field:

Informing the public:

49 Leagues)

1. Seven Area Conferences, spring 1958, emphasis on Party Designation-389 persons)
2. Candidates Questionnaire results published in local newspapers and in Voters Guide, Minneapolis Tribune.
3. Minnesota Editorial Association releases to 500 newspapers in the state, every other week during the session, based usually on an issue of the Capitol Letter. We have sent 10 releases to date, and through use of our clipping service, we estimate that:

.....1 or more releases were used in 43 newspapers in 33 different counties
.....some newspapers used all releases, some only 1 or 2
.....over 88,000 families were "exposed" to 1 or more releases.
.....geographical distribution gratifying, most in non-League towns.

The following is a direct quote from a tiny clipping from the Madelia Times-Messenger: (don't know if the scissors slipped or if this is all of release #2 that was used) "At the end of the 11th legislative day, Jan. 19, 99 bills had been introduced in the Minnesota Senate and 98 in the House. Do you suppose these legislators will be able to pay them all?" (No mention of DW, thank goodness!)

4. Essay Contest -sent notices to all superintendents, entries were fine in quality, winners spent day at Capitol, and 1st prize received Encyclopedia Americana.

Informing the membership:

1. A Legislative Workshop was held October 1958. Legislators were invited who opposed the League position to give us their reasons for opposition. This proved very stimulating for the League representatives who attended, and the question periods were lively. We emphasized the role of the local League in lobbying, reviewed past League activity and anticipated our coming action in the 1959 session. This workshop was attended by representatives of 30 Leagues.
2. Capitol Letter -- This Legislative Newsletter was a success from the point of view of subscriptions, which numbered 1093. And certainly these 1000 and more members were brought closer to the legislature -- whether this closeness resulted in more letters to their legislators or will result in members taking citizen action in elections is yet to be proved.

3. Legislative Day, Feb. 1959. This gave out-state League members an opportunity to testify before the Committee hearing Reapportionment bills in the House. They also heard newspapermen discuss the session and our bills and what sort of data the press uses for editorials and stories. Members from 33 Leagues attended.
4. Local League Legislative Activities. League members participated in many legislative functions through her local League before and during the session. Such as: luncheons with their legislators, candidates meetings, tours to the Capitol etc. There were at least 80 such events that we know of.
5. Legislative Observers. This program was open to all Leagues but has been most helpful to those Leagues within comfortable driving distance of the Capitol. It amounts to a short course in government and from it we hope to draw those who will be most active in the legislative program next session. 62 women from 19 Leagues signed up, and 25 have attended 4 or more of the 7 sessions. We met every other week, attended committee hearings and legislative sessions as observers, and listened to speakers who were prominent in the legislative or executive branch of our government. (Some of these observers will be used as Interim Commission observers, few as lobbyists and others as state committee members.

Informing the Legislator:

October, 1957 -- The 1957 Legislative Report and a form letter was sent to Legislators telling them of the newly elected State Board members.

January, 1958,-- Legislators received a publication "Will an Area Amendment Settle Reapportionment in Minnesota?".

July, 1958 -- Candidates Questionnaires were sent out. Local Leagues were responsible for interviewing and collecting the questionnaires.

October, 1958 -- Three publications on our state program were mailed to all successful primary candidates for the state legislature in areas where we had no Leagues. Local Leagues were urged to do the same for their elected Representatives and Senators.

November, 1958-- Letters of congratulation were mailed to all newly elected legislators, and state publications were included in their mailing.

Seven lobbyists worked, as volunteers, of course, for the League this session. Our lobbyists informed us when action was needed and when constituent pressure was necessary, and on whom, and in turn the local Leagues were notified, so that they could write letters, talk to their legislators over the weekend, or send wires if necessary.

Authors for our bills were sought by our lobbyists, and they also testified before Committee hearings. Lobbyists acted many times in close consultation with legislators in working out some of the difficult problems in lawmaking.

Capitol Letter reporting was a very important duty of our lobbyists, so that the 1000 plus subscribers were made to feel "they were there"....

This is the first session the League lobbyists were subsidised for their transportation meals at the Capitol and some of the baby-sitter expenses. Telegrams, telephone calls, printing and other expenses pertaining to our legislative program were paid for out of our Legislative Accrual fund.

ELECTION LAWS

If we haven't been convinced the last 2 years that the election laws item is a natural for the League, the results in the legislature and the attitudes of legislators during the session have proved our wise choice.

Even though we had to go down to the wire, we did see the interim commission bill revising our election laws pass finally after the clock was covered. A constitutional amendment allowing voters who move within 30 days of an election to vote went even closer to the deadline. It was sent to the Governor after passing both houses just a few hours away from the adjournment of the regular session.

The interim bill followed the long tortuous route of any bill that is the least bit controversial. When the Senate elections committee heard the bill, many people testified in its behalf, several amendments were adopted, and it was recommended to pass. The Senate committee of the whole added 2 more amendments and then passed the bill unanimously.

In the House, the elections committee began hearings on the report with the intention of making the report a committee bill (a position of strength on the floor) or hearing the Senate bill. The bill as passed by the Senate came over to the House and was recommended to pass by the House committee.

On the floor of the House, several amendments were rejected and several were adopted. When the House passed its amended version, the bill was sent back to the Senate for acceptance. The Senate refused to concur and a conference committee of 3 Senators and 3 Representatives was appointed. The 1 controversial amendment was removed from the bill which cleared the way for final approval of both houses.

The passage of the constitutional amendment which satisfied 1 point of our Election Laws bonus consensus was a bonus that came up late in the session. So 2 bills with DWV support passed this legislature.

I would like to pass along several observations on lobbying this session. First of all, we have made new friends in both houses because of our activity in the election laws field. Our opinions on election laws were generally respected because of our known interest and activity in this area over a long period of time, even though we have only had election laws on our agenda for 2 years.

One of the more difficult aspects of lobbying for election laws was attending every meeting of the Senate elections committee which met at 8 A.M. on Monday mornings. However, it was worth while because of the respect we gained and the acquaintances we made.

HOME RULE

Immediately after the successful vote on Amendment #1 last November, proponents of Home Rule set to work drafting 3 pieces of legislation which would implement the new constitutional provisions on local government. These bills concerned 1) Special Law procedures,

2) Home Rule Charter procedures, and 3) Change in population minimums in cities of 1st class.

Now, 5 months later, a look at the scoreboard shows 1 bill successful, 2 partially so.

Success: A bill changing the population minimum of cities of the first class from "~~over~~ 50,000" to "over 100,000" passed both houses late in the session. This bill was designed to prevent rapidly growing suburban communities from having inappropriate first class cities' laws apply to them.

Partial Success: Special Laws Procedure -- In January a bill was introduced which set policy on when local approval of special laws was mandatory and when it could be dispensed with (as in the case of legislative emergencies). Filing local approval of acceptance or rejection with the Secretary of State, and effective dates of special laws were also approved.

The bill passed smoothly through the House, with backing from the League of Minnesota Municipalities, the Citizens League of Minneapolis and Hennepin County, and the D/V. In the Senate, unexpected opposition developed from some Senators who wanted an amendment to give the legislature routine authority to omit local approval. Supporters of the bill said this would lead to dispensing with local approval as a general custom and undermine the Home Rule principle. The State D/V and some local Leagues sent letters to Senators opposing this objectionable provision. A Senate subcommittee delegates to work out these differences was unable to agree on a policy.

In the last week of the session the filing procedure which required local governing body approval, and the effective dates for special laws were embodied in a separate bill which quickly passed both houses.

This leaves the general policy on special requirements for local approval up to a future legislature. This will probably be beneficial, since experience with the other new provisions for special legislation and home rule may clarify the issue.

Partial Success: Home Rule Charter Procedure -- This bill, introduced in February, clarified and simplified procedure in the home rule enabling statute. Most important, it provided for adoption and amendment of Home Rule charters by simple majority of those voting on the question.

The previous constitutional provision required 4/7 (about 56%) to adopt and 3/5 (60%)

This provision drew opposition immediately from those who disapproved of more flexible change in home rule charters. In the House the requirement was raised to 52 1/2%.

The real battle centered in the Senate, where some opponents wanted to retain the difficult amending process. Widespread citizen support from school groups, labor, political parties, League of Minnesota Municipalities, Citizens League, the DNV of Minnesota and some local Leagues, added to appeals from 20 Home Rule Charter cities, failed to convince the Senate of the merits of majority rule. The Senate and House finally concurred on the figure of 55% to adopt and amend Home Rule Charters.

What is the total effect of Amendment # 1? and the enabling legislation of 1959?

Improvements in the relationship of the legislature and local governments, while not ideal, are substantial:

1. Special laws are easily identified by the name of the community affected.
2. Special laws require local governing body approval to become effective.
3. Home Rule charters should be easier to adopt and amend.
4. County home rule is available for the needs of the future.
5. The constitutional provisions are such that further improvements in the local government statutes may be sought from future legislatures.

REAPPORTIONMENT

Pressures for Reapportionment in this legislative session were strong and several in number. Of these, the federal court action was the most dramatic. Though most legislators unfriendly to the cause stated flatly and loudly that the federal court could ~~and~~ not and would not intervene, this suit did have great motivating influence in all reapportionment moves. Even legislators who honestly expected no court action were somewhat ashamed that citizens had to resort to the judiciary to force settlement of a legislative issue.

A second and even more practical motivating factor was the aspect of the 1960 census. Except for the dwindling few determined never to settle, all rural members badly wanted to do so this last session of the decade.

Other factors at work were an aroused public, some aroused legislative consciences, and better informed members in both chambers.

The question facing the 1959 session, then, was not "Shall we settle?" but "How shall we settle?"

Because any statute passed this session would not take effect until the legislature of 1963, yet be based on an outmoded census, many people thought this an ideal session to formulate a constitutional amendment. Such an amendment could be submitted in 1960, be implemented in the 1961 session and thus control the election of the 1963 legislature. The Citizen-Legislator Committee appointed by the Governor late in 1957 stressed the timeliness of the amendment approach, and recommended the incorporation of an area factor into the lower body, with guaranteed population in the Senate, and effective enforcement machinery.

During the first half of the session, emphasis was on this County Representation Plan. This solution was favored by the metropolitan press, the League, urban representatives and the "moderate" rural members of the House. It was not favored by the Senate, except for a few who had been on the Committee and who knew the practical advantage of putting area in the House. Nor was it favored by the "extreme rural" House members, who believed the area factor did not go far enough. (As a matter of fact, the defection of the Farm Bureau, which had signed the report, made it impossible to make effective progress in the Senate, where it is extremely powerful. The price of Farm Bureau support was 1 representative for each county.

In spite of great opposition, the County Representation Plan was reported out of committee in the strong position of a Committee Bill. After intensive and stirring debate, it narrowly passed the House in an amended form.

Early in April, the Bergerud-Popovich bill, which had come out of committee somewhat battered, came out of the House somewhat battened down. On the statutory subcommittee were 3 members from areas badly hurt by the bill, who demanded as the price of a favorable report the addition of 4 representative seats to improve their representation. The full committee and House agreed. During the last minutes of floor debate, Mr. Iversen succeeded in tying the bill to an amendment, thus making its effectiveness contingent on passage of an area amendment.

In the Senate, things had been moving slowly through committee hearings and were finally turned over to a subcommittee of 5 men who were to do the actual work. This subcommittee had endless meetings (not public, of course), at which 1) it drastically reshaped the statute to preserve the seats of most conservative incumbents; and 2) it gave slight attention to a constitutional amendment. This amendment, when reported to the committee, was in such sloppy form and so confusing that its authors could not adequately explain it. Nevertheless, after only 15 minutes of perplexed questions and uninformative answers, the committee voted this amendment onto the floor.

The Senate debate on both these measures was lengthy, bitter, and unlike that in the House, was on caucus lines, not rural and urban ones. The Bergerud bill was attacked for "recognizing no principle except that of status quo." One liberal member after another pointed out how, in his particular area, committee changes in the original bill had sacrificed population, contiguity, and like economic interests to the single criterion of continued conservative control in the Senate. Every amendment offered by the liberals was voted down on unflinching caucus lines.

The Senate debate on the constitutional amendment found the liberals pitted less against the authors than against Bergerud. Because the chief author, Sinclair, understood little about the amendment and because Rosenmeier chose to say almost nothing, all questions were turned over to the somewhat uncomfortable Senator from rural Hennepin --

on the pretext that, since he had been successful in attaching 2 amendments to the original measure, he was now responsible for it. The only liberal-offered amendment to be accepted was one to rectify a typographical error.

On Thursday, April 24, 10 conferees from House and Senate sat down together faced with 2 diametrically opposed constitutional amendments and 2 statutes which differed as to some 20 district lines outstate and in both urban and suburban Hennepin. At 5:30 on Friday, the conferees gave up, put on their hats, and went out to dinner. Only a special session would suffice for ironing out their many differences, and perhaps not that.

The possibilities of Conference Committee action are 4 in number:

1. No agreement on either statute or amendment -- fairly likely.
2. Agreement on both statute and amendment -- practically impossible, unless tied together.
3. Agreement on an amendment alone -- very unlikely.
4. Agreement on a statute alone -- the most likely of the 4. Several legislators who want reapportionment badly fear this last eventuality because the Senate is left pretty much intact, the House area concessions have been strengthened, yet reapportionment would probably not recur at least till 1970. They think either the federal court or the 1960 census would bring a better settlement. Others, of the urban areas, are willing to sacrifice truly adequate representation since our constitutional provisions would remain intact.

Future League action will be called for in any event. In all probability, Reapportionment will not have been solved either fairly or permanently by what the 10 conferees can shape out of the material sent them.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION IN THE 1959 LEGISLATURE.

The bills for constitutional convention had a "hopeful" beginning in the 1959 Legislature: Rep. Luther hoped the matter would pass in the House and Sen.holmquist hoped it would pass at least in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Sen.holmquist introduced S.F. 86, a bill to permit the people of Minnesota to vote on whether they wished a convention to be called to revise the State Constitution, on January 16. He felt that by early consideration it would have a better chance of passage in the Senate Committee. Senators Schultz and Richardson were co-authors. Companion bill, R.F. 181, authored by Reps. Fosier, Luther, Christie, Noreen, and Bassett, was introduced on January 21.

An unfriendly Senate Judiciary Committee heard the proponents for the bill at 8:00 AM on ~~January~~ February 20. The only proponents were Prof. Short of the University of Minnesota, and Mrs. O. H. Anderson, LNW State President. There were no opponents to the bill except the members of the Committee, who subjected Prof. Short to questioning.

No roll call was taken on Sen. Rot's motion to postpone the bill indefinitely, but the motion passed with a 12 to 8 vote. The final crushing blow was Senator (Olivia) Laureman's explanation of his vote for the motion: "If there were any demand at all for this proposal, supporters would have come to the capitol and to this hearing. Since there is no popular demand, I feel duty-bound to try people to vote against this bill." This seems a sad commentary on the 12 years of work by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, but it seems also to reveal our weakness.

PARTY DESIGNATION

p. 9

H. F. 61 - House authors - Luther, Yetka, O'Dea, C.D. Peterson, Hartle

On Jan. 16th - Mrs. Luther introduced the bill in the House. It was referred to the Elections Committee.

On January 28th - the Elections Committee passed the bill, 9 - 2. Maruska and Grussing voted "nay."

January 29 - Committee report was given to the House with recommendation to pass.

Febr. 3 - House referred the bill back to the Elections Committee. Mrs. Luther moved to remove the amendment and to progress the bill. 61 ayes-65 nays. Elections committee sent it to the Judiciary Committee.

S. F. 120. Senate authors - Grittner, Fraser & Salmore

Bill came out of the Senate as minority report because no conservative senator would give his name as a

Febr. 9th - Hearing in Elections Committee - fair and open hearing for all proponents.

At this time representative of Minn. Council of Jewish Women, rep. from the LMW, the Republican and Democratic parties, and the University of Minnesota, Prof. Harold Chase & all had a very open opportunity to be heard. Excellent testimony. No legislator testified -- just listened to the case as presented by the proponents.

Febr. 16th - The senators themselves considered the bill and there was no defense except by the authors. No action.

Elections committee stood 18-1 against the bill, only Salmore supported it.

When the League supported the FEP law it was because it embodied the principles of equality on the basis of race, creed, color and national origin. The machinery to implement this was the FEPC. The title of this agency suggests the ways in which the law we originally supported may be amended. First, matters dealing with discrimination ~~other~~ in areas other than employment such as housing could be added; second, it could include unfair employment practices other than discrimination on the basis of race, such as refusal to hire married women or persons over the age of 35; third, since the commission enforces the law primarily by conference and persuasion, its domain could be logically broadened to include other problems which lend themselves to this type of enforcement. We cannot expect the law to stand unchanged. The question for us is whether the original principle suffers.

p. 11 amendments

Mary Mantis

p. 12

Following FEPC leave room for Amendments - this follows:

Another legislative report has been completed. It is true that the legislature has been under heavy criticism, many letters to the editor, editorials, radio and TV programs kept the people aware of the difficulties that existed within the capitol.

The role of the League is not to accuse, threaten or criticize. If you are unhappy about the results of the session, then do something. Analyze your legislator's accomplishments, the type of legislation he supported or defeated. Inform the apathetic citizen in your locality, tell him of the new Minnesota laws such as Home Rule, Election Laws, etc. Have an all-day work shop or State Government Day or possibly an area conference. Don't wait — the time is now. Learn more about your state government and inform others.

The Junior Chamber of Commerce passed a resolution to work for a Constitutional Convention next year. The Council of Jewish Women lobbied and have on their agenda our "Big Three." Both political parties have the Big Three as part of their party platform. How about a strong citizens' committee throughout the state?

I have enjoyed my job, I have enjoyed my committee and I would like to thank everyone of them.

May 10, 1959

REPORT ON MEA RELEASE PROJECT

Plan: A Minnesota LNW release included in the Minnesota Editorial Association mailing to local newspapers throughout the state every other week during the 1959 legislative session.

Purpose: Note to editors with first release said: "Our hope is that you will use them (the releases) as a regular feature, with or without mention of the LNW, whichever you think would be more effective. Our sole objective is to help enlarge citizen understanding of state government."

Cost: Aside from office expense, \$15 (?) per release, plus a nominal amount totalling not more than \$25 (?) for the clipping service which it seemed wise to utilize as a help in evaluating the effectiveness of the project.

Number and subject of releases: 9 to date; 2 more contemplated.

- #1 - How legislature is organized
- #2 - Number of bills introduced, comment on taxes, county representation plan of reapportionment (amendment)
- #3 - How bills can be killed
- #4 - Party designation (Harold Chase's testimony)
- #5 - Comparison of tax proposals of Governor and chambers of commerce
- #6 - House action on county representation plan of reapportionment (amendment)
- #7 - Bergerud-Popovich bill (statutory reapportionment)
- #8 - Proposed electronic data processing center
- #9 - Appraisal of regular legislative session
- #10 ?? Interim commissions
- #11 ?? LNW convention action

Use of releases: Clippings have been received on the first 7 releases. I think we can assume they are complete for only the first 5 because they are slow in coming in and we have only a few on #6 and #7. Clippings cover only those where the name of the LNW was used; if any newspapers used the releases without mention of the LNW, which is unlikely (?), the clipping service probably would not have caught them. Clippings to date reveal:

- One or more releases were used in 43 newspapers located in 33 different counties. The geographic distribution is gratifying, though northeast~~ern~~ and southwest corners of the state were not reached (see map).
- Some newspapers used almost all of the releases, some used only one or two to date (see list); #2, #3, and #5 were most widely used; for those beyond #5 we do not yet have sufficient returns to judge.
- Based on 1958 circulation figures, over 88,000 families were "exposed" to one or more releases.

Comment: I seem to waiver between black despair and genuine satisfaction. I do think we must remember this is our first attempt at such a series and maybe it takes more time to reach maximum effectiveness. I wonder, too, if we got the complete story from the clippings. For example, Phil Duff told somebody (was it you?) that he used #4, yet there is not a single clipping from the Republican Eagle. Am I grasping at straws?

An encouraging aspect is the wide geographic distribution of the papers that used at least one release so far. I don't know the location of our local Leagues, but my hunch is that we got our name before a good many people who had never seen anything we put out, or maybe even heard of the LNW.

If the budget can stand it, I'd like to see the LWV continue to use MEA releases - perhaps in short series - for example, to present the meat of a new LWV publication, or a commission report, or articles like Dr. Anderson's on reapportionment. The possibilities are endless. If the material were factual and not too dated, the editors could save it for a while and use it when local copy is scarce. This could be considered part of our year-round voters service and the subjects would not necessarily have to be limited to our program.

I'd like to try a short "questionnaire" with the final release in this series to see if we could get some reaction from the editors themselves. They might have suggestions for improvement of the releases, or they might just say drop dead and we could forget about the whole thing!

To really coin a phrase - in every life some sun must shine! The following is a direct quote from a tiny clipping from the Madelia Times-Messenger. Don't know whether the scissors slipped or if this is all of release #2 that was used:

"At the end of the 11th legislative day, Jan. 19, 99 bills had been introduced in the Minnesota senate and 98 in the house. Do you suppose those legislators will be able to pay them all?" (No mention of the LWV, thank goodness!)

Lillian H. Jensen

Date: May 10, 1959
To: Mary Mantis
Re: CAPITOL LETTER 1958-59
From: Liella Newstrom

CAPITOL LETTER was a success from the point of view of subscriptions. I would have been pleased with 500. ¹⁰⁹³ was overwhelming.

From comments I have heard and from what you have said, it was also a success in that it filled a very definite need so far as members were concerned.

Certainly those 1000 members were brought closer to the legislature - whether this closeness resulted in more letters to their legislators or will result in members taking citizen action in elections is yet to be proved.

Roberta estimated on the basis of 8 issues a cost of \$750. If we then estimate \$900 as a total cost - and perhaps it is unfair to have the subscribers pay for the last issue going to 4000 non-subscribers - there is about \$200 difference. We can hope that the \$200 was spent for office help in other work.

Editing CL was not difficult. I believe that an editor, without a two-year old to keep her from the typewriter, could do the whole job in one day per issue. This is not possible if the editor must also be writer. Those issues in which I wrote a good share of the copy took a great deal more time.

* * *

As to a future volume of Capitol Letter:

1. I became disenchanted with the Senate and House file numbers and know now why the newspapers rarely refer to them in their stories. I would underplay, rather than overplay as I did this time, the file numbers and refer to the bills by their familiar names - such as the party designation bill, etc.

2. CL could have had more background or resource material on issues - but I would recommend that it did not. Rather I think we should look upon it as an appetizer for League efforts at more individual reading, attending unit and general meetings, becoming lobbyists, etc.

3. CL could have gone beyond League issues and taken a look at tax and other important issues not on the League Program. I think it should not. I believe it should stick to the rules which guide other LNW work - exerting time, paper and effort on only those items which have been chosen by League conventions. For one thing, we do not have the experts in those other fields to do the reporting and to assign them would be diverting League energy from our chosen work. Non-experts cannot do the type of reporting we want.

We must hope by concentrating on a few issues that we have whetted the appetite for the member to pursue follow other issues on her own.

4. I believe that it would have been helpful to have had at least two more issues. That would have meant a bi-weekly publication throughout the session. The three week lag that one time created more problems rather than helped. Members, too, would have appreciated the regularity, I think. I would recommend that next time CL be issued every other week, beginning with the first Monday before the legislature opens, - come hell or hi-water.

5. With a 90-day session, a bi-weekly would run 11 or 12 issues. A longer session would involve 15 issues (ugh!)

6. The possibility of having CL handled by a Letter Service company is something which needs investigation. I will do so (but I don't think this matter will be of interest to convention delegates) after talking to a few people about the need and also about what process the service might take over.

7. Another possibility, other than a Letter Service, might be a contract with a local League, or more than one local League, to do the folding, stapling, addressing and mailing on a paid basis. For \$10, \$15 or \$20 per issue some volunteers might take on these responsibilities. The money earned could well be applied to their pledge or could be added to their pledge.

8. I have thought about sending out a questionnaire to perhaps 50 League subscribers to get suggestions on a future OL. If you feel your questionnaire in the President's Letter accomplished this, I won't do so. Let me know.

9. In some cases, the reporting could have been better. But I felt that it was true that the better the lobbyist, the better the reporter. And since lobbyists are born and not made, this can only be improved by choosing the right lobbyist.

10. I believe the editor of OL should be a non-Board person, but there were several times when I felt a bit in the dark. Whether this could be changed by having the editor attend more meetings of the Legislative Committee or the Board, I am not certain. Undoubtedly OL could be improved if edited by a person who attended the legislature every now and then, if only to talk with lobbyists.

11. Suggestions for the next editor are - any good metropolitan bulletin editor, Mary Evenson, Sis Salisbury, and Lily Jensen, Bunny Marotta.

If we do the questionnaire, there will be more to write later. Also more will be added on using a Letter Service company and I intend to write a bit for the next editor. This is all for now, though.

* * *

As to the legislative session as a whole, I want to pass on two thoughts.

1. In some cases, lobbyists seemed to be overworked (I think they liked it that way). Would there be any merit in having two lobbyists to an issue with one assigned as the chief, the other as an assistant? The work might then be divided by House and Senate with each helping the other when necessary. Undoubtedly this would have some hitches, but it might provide better coverage in some cases.

2. I asked Kingsley Holman one night to give me a frank appraisal of League lobbying. He said two things you might be interested in

a. If he were a legislator who thought differently than League members, he doubted that he would be influenced by anything the League said or did. If he were one who thought like League members on certain issues, he would give some thought to his action if he found that the League was on another side in a particular case.

b. He said that on the whole League members conduct themselves with dignity, but that there still were some instances in which some of them asked silly questions. His wife and I decided that he was not referring to lobbyists, but to either Leaguers on tour or legislative observers. Whoever it was, it is undoubtedly true that these questions reflect on the LMV and its legislative work. Certainly we cannot expect the legislators to distinguish between the lobbyists and other League members. And I don't know how you could tactfully ask Leaguers to keep their mouths shut. Maybe we'll have to live with this.

I should add that I have probably twisted his words in reporting this and he may not appreciate my repeating them. I should also say that he thinks the LMV is a wonderful organization and that he praised the League's legislative work and mentioned you and Betty Kane in particular as outstanding.

294
Legislative Report---Election Laws

Revising

If we haven't been convinced the last two years that the election laws item is a natural for the League, the results in the legislature and the attitudes of legislators during the session have proved our wise choice.

Even though we had to go down to the wire, we did see the interim commission bill revising our election laws pass finally after the clock was covered. A constitutional amendment allowing voters who move within 30 days of an election to vote went even closer to the deadline. It was sent to the Governor after passing both houses just a few hours away from the adjournment of the regular session.

The interim bill followed the long tortuous route of any bill that is the least bit controversial. When the senate elections committee heard the bill, many people testified in its behalf, several amendments were adopted, and it was recommended to pass. The senate committee of the whole added two more amendments and then passed the bill unanimously.

In the house, the elections committee began hearings on the report with the intention of making the report a committee bill(a position of strength on the floor) or hearing the senate bill. The bill as passed by the senate came over to the house and was recommended to pass by the house committee.

On the floor of the house, several amendments were rejected and several were adopted. When the house passed its amended version, the bill was sent back to the senate for acceptance. The senate refused to concur and a conference committee of 3 senators and 3 representatives was appointed. The one controversial amendment was removed from the bill which cleared the way for final approval of both houses.

The passage of the constitutional amendment which satisfied one point of our election laws consensus was a bonus that came up late in the session. So two bills with League support passed this legislature.

I would like to pass along several observations on lobbying this session. First of all, we have made new friends in both houses because of our activity in the election laws field. Our opinions on election laws were generally ^{respected} ~~accepted~~ because of our known interest and activity in this area over a long period of time even though we have only had election laws on our agenda for two years.

One of the more difficult aspects of lobbying for election laws was attending every meeting of the senate elections committee which met at 8 AM on Mon. mornings. However, it was worth while because of the respect we gained and acquaintances we made.

(The reporting features of the lobbying job added this session took time but were extremely valuable. It was good for the lobbyists as well as Leaguers to re-cap our program every two weeks for the observers meetings and for the Capitol Letter.

The observe.s program was tremendous and highly regarded by legislators who understood the program as well as by those who attended. It is from this group that future lobbyists should develop---lobbyists need this kind of thorough background before going any further.

Over the
The Capitol Letter and the MEA releases were probably the most significant additions to our legislative program. I hope these will be continued. If it were practically possible and we had worthwhile information, the MEA releases should continue on a permanent basis.

One way that the League lobbyists are effective that needs mentioning is in informing known lobbyists of other organizations of League program. It is hard to evaluate results from these efforts, but I am sure they accrue.

In general, I think that the legislative program was well handled this session and that we are "coming of age" in lobbying.

45

HOME RULE
LEGISLATIVE REPORT
from A. Green

Immediately after the successful vote on Amendment #1 last November, proponents of Home Rule set to work drafting three pieces of legislation which would implement the new constitutional provisions on local government. These bills concerned: 1.) special law procedures 2.) Home Rule Charter procedures 3.) change in population minimums on cities of the first class.

Now, five months later, a look at the scoreboard shows one bill successful, and two partially successful.

Success: A bill changing the population minimum of cities of the first class from "over 50,000" to "over 100,000" passed both houses late in the session. This bill was designed to prevent rapidly growing suburban communities from having inappropriate first-class cities' laws apply to them.

Partial success; Special Laws Procedure: In January a bill was introduced which set policy on when local approval of special laws was mandatory and when it could be dispensed with (as in the case of legislative emergencies). Filing local approval of acceptance or rejection with the Secretary of State, and effective dates of special laws were also provided.

The bill passed smoothly through the House, with backing from the League of Minnesota Municipalities, the Citizens League of Minneapolis and Hennepin County, and the LTV. In the Senate, unexpected opposition developed from some senators who wanted an amendment to give the legislature routine authority to omit local approval. Supporters of the bill said this would lead to dispensing with local approval as a general custom and undermine the Home Rule principle. The State LTV and some local Leagues sent letters to senators opposing this objectionable provision. A Senate subcommittee delegated to work out these differences was unable to agree on a policy.

In the last week of the session the filing procedure which required local governing body approval, and the effective dates for special laws were embodied in a separate bill which quickly passed both houses.

This leaves the general policy on special requirements for local approval up to a future legislature. This will probably be beneficial, since experience with the other new provisions for special legislation and home rule may clarify the issue.

Partial success; Home Rule Charter Procedure: This bill, introduced in February, clarified and simplified procedure in the home rule enabling statute. Most important, it provided for adoption and amendment of Home Rule charters by simple majority of those voting on the question. The previous constitutional provision required 4/7 (about 56%) to adopt and 3/5 (60%) to amend.

This provision drew opposition immediately from those who disapproved of more flexible change in home rule charters. In the House the requirement was raised to 52%. The real battle centered in the Senate, where some opponents wanted to retain the difficult amending process. Widespread citizen support from school groups, labor, political parties, League Of Minnesota Municipalities, Citizens League, the State LTV and some local Leagues, added to appeals from 20 Home Rule Charter cities, failed to convince the Senate of the merits of majority rule. The Senate and House finally concurred on the figure of 55% to adopt and amend home rule charters.

What is the total effect of Amendment #1 and the enabling legislation of 1959? Improvements in the relationship of the legislature ~~xxx~~ to local governments, while not ideal, are substantial.

1. Special laws are easily identified by the name of the community affected.
2. Special laws require local governing body approval to become effective.
3. Home Rule charters should be easier to adopt and amend.
4. County home rule is available for the needs of the future.
5. The Constitutional provisions are such that further improvements in the local government statutes may be sought from future legislatures.

May 7, 1959

To Mary Mantis from Luverne Graham
Report on Party Designation

Early in the 1959 session one of the political analysts who writes for the Mpls. Star observed that he believes that, aside from a handful of supporters, the Minnesota legislature fears and hates the party designation bill more than any other it must face each session. The LNWV discovered an unexpected and disappointing opposition to PD before the session opened among both Conservatives and Liberals. Not a single Conservative senator could be found to author the bill. Even among those who supported it in the past none would do so this session. Some gave such reasons as: You know I'm with you on party designation. I've always supported it but if I give my name to this bill they'll blackball me. None of my bill will go through. One senator formerly a representative who has been an author in the past promised to support it in committee hearing. When the bill came up for its only Senate committee hearing he sat in silence. The Senate elections committee stood 18 to 1 against party designation with only Sen. Raphael Salmore for it. Thus it appeared as a minority report with three liberal authors-- Grittner, Fraser, and Salmore.

In the House, where it passed the 1957 session 95 to 32, the shock of disillusionment was even greater because the league had felt sure of passage even though we did not expect the large vote of the previous session. The House opposition was led by Iverson and Popovitch who attached an incredible number of incredibly bad amendments to the bill. Even Yetka, one of the authors, turned against the bill with a crippling amendment. The bill's main author, Mrs. Luther, called it as incongruous a monstrosity of a bill as anyone would want to see....nearly ridiculous enough for both houses to pass it.

Why do we seem to have taken a large step backwards in our quest for party designation? In an effort to analyze the character of the 1959 legislature we observe that:

1. the Liberals held a looser grip on the House than they did in 1957.

Caucus controls should have assumed support of platform principles like PD in spite of personal animosities. Instead, factions within factions worked to help or injure individuals and general legislation became less important than personal loyalties and enmities. In the Senate some legislators nursed deep resentment at being nearly unseated and avenged their hurts at the cost of badly needed statewide legislation.

2. The treat of some kind of reapportionment seemed real enough to some legislators to insure a quick and irrevocable defeat for PD. If they had to submit to one sweeping reform this session, they were not likely to submit to two. As the session advanced the urgency of reapportionment lessened in some legislators' minds and many felt the session could very well end without either of these unloved reforms.

3. The entrenchment of the 'independent' concept in Minnesota politics grows out of the looseness of party structure in this state. Dr. Ralph Felstad of Carleton believes that the people must be convinced that the government of Minnesota is neither non-partisan nor independent. This misconception is fostered by our 'nonpartisan' legislators at campaign time. They speak of the glorious independence of Minnesota's legislature untouched by the party bossism that dirties other state governments. The people of our state do not seem to want to be bound to tighter party organization and this is certainly their privilege. This loose party discipline is reflected in the failure of the two parties to deliver support from legislators for party platform planks. As long as the people are deceived by this nonpartisan independence and as long as the legislators continue to feed the deception, the outlook for PD is dim. Prof. Harold Chase of the UofM says that Minnesota legislators live in the best of all possible worlds and that they would be fools to change it.

Because the personnel of the legislature will be unchanged in 1961 the LNV would be realistic not to try to win votes for PD by active lobbying at the next session. Those legislators who work for PD will know we are with them. I believe we should use our woman power and our resources for two other goals:

1. To reveal to the people the character of the Minnesota legislature,

over

the structure and operation of the caucuses and committees, influence of special interests, responsiveness to changing needs of state, etc.

Article 2. To work as individuals outside the league for the for the election of candidates who pledge support of league sponsored legislation, and

3. In order to be doers of the word and not hearers only, to participate as members in the party of our choice.

Copies made 2
given to
DA & Jan & File -

D.A. & J. Sigford - This will interest you -

Further observations - by L. Kuderling & M. M. Austin
Please return to "

To be effective, a lobbyist must be an expert in her field. My suggestion is that the resource person in a subject be the lobbyist. When this is not possible, it is necessary for the lobbyist in a given area to be as fully informed as the resource person.

While it is of primary importance that a lobbyist know her subject thoroughly, it is almost equally important that the lobbyist spend a great deal of time attending committee meetings, senate and house sessions, and generally being available in the legislative halls. This is a responsibility that it is difficult to delegate. There is a lot of waiting around doing nothing actively that seems useless but serves a real purpose. It is in this way that the legislators become acquainted with the lobbyist and believe that she understands the legislative process. They respect a lobbyist who is serious about being informed on the structural workings of government. Just being present lobbies for the League almost as effectively as numerous personal interviews at only several given times.

I realize that these two prerequisites for lobbying limit the number of Leaguers who could possibly qualify. This is intentional-- if we don't have lobbyists of the aforementioned kind, then I believe we should stick to observing and information-giving only. Actually, the kind of lobbyist described ends up carrying the total League program because she is recognized as a League lobbyist and is consulted on League position in each program field. Because this is true, lobbyists must be chosen with care and be well informed on total League position and then be given a degree of autonomy in making decisions as the situation changes during a session.

One lobbyist who is well informed and well known by legislators can accomplish more in influencing legislation than a whole bunch of Leaguers spread too thin.

If it were possible, the job of legislative chairman might be divided so that one person could spend all her time at the legislature as a full time lobbyist and another might handle all the administrative aspects of the job including the observers program.

MEMO TO: President, Legislative Chairman, Office
 FROM : Anne Green
 RE : Recommendations for future on program emphasis, and legislative program
 Date : May 12, 1959

Program: In line with the proposed current agenda re-evaluation of Party Designation and its scope, probably an integrated public relations effort on PR could be most effective in the long run, after the League arrives at a position. Some responsibility to party platforms and pre-campaign pledges on the part of both Liberals and Conservatives will be needed before we get other improvements in state government, much less a constitutional convention.

One gets the feeling that the League's campaign for a convention has gone on so long that opposition to it has space had a chance to solidify and even spread to erstwhile supporters. (Much the same thing has happened to the state governmental reorganization program since 1955.) Successful passage of amendments has taken away much of the impetus for a convention, even though one is needed still to do a thorough job on the constitution.

As to reapportionment, it appears that some outside force, such as the Federal Court Suit, will be needed to obtain fair or adequate changes in representation.

Legislative program

1. The service and stimulation to the local Leagues through the area conferences, legislative workshop, leg. day, observers course, and Capital Letter were excellent and should be continued or expanded.
2. Service to the public through the Capital Letter and other publications needs more help and direction from a public relations department. Local Leagues could possibly use help on how to set up a speakers bureau and speech resource material. Previous LSV material on this subject could be updated and collected.
3. Activity in the legislature
 Since we are a volunteer group advocating legislation in the public interest, I feel that the League's program should be more important than any one person, no matter how able, informed, or dedicated.

Techniques for information to legislators, testimony before legislative committees, and "lobbying" by the local Leagues at home should be so set up that a change of personnel on the state House makes no difference to the success of the legislative program. After all, it is the stimulation of interest in government, rather than legislative success as such, that is our basic aim.

Many groups, other than so-called private interests, such as the LSW, Citizen's League, County Officials, etc., maintain paid executive-secretary-lobbyists who have few other duties during the session than to cultivate legislators and maneuver legislation. Perhaps the League of Women Voters would lose some of its appeal were it to emulate these other organizations.

This is not to say that improved methods of legislative communication, information, observation, and reporting should not be sought. League members working with the legislature should be trained, informed and capable. The proposed manual being prepared by Mrs. White should be a help. I would also suggest a thorough pre-session briefing meeting where tactics, approaches, and methods could be thrashed out by experienced Leaguers and those new at the game.

But the League's legislative techniques should not depend on finding a few people each session who will fill the position of a full-time professional lobbyist.

LEGISLATIVE LOBBYIST EXPENSE ACCOUNT

We need to know what it costs you to lobby, even though the LWV is not rich enough to pay you. Our aim is to find out what actual expenses are, in order to arrive at a realistic figure, honestly determined, to present to the State Budget Committee in 1959.

Please keep as accurate a record as you can. You will be paid outright for all telephone and telegraph charges (which must be okayed before sending by the Legislative Chairman). When the session ends, whatever is left in the Legislative Fund will be pro-rated to lobbyists, based on expense accounts turned in.

KEEP A SEPARATE EXPENSE SHEET FOR EACH DAY SPENT IN THE AUGUST HALLS OF THE CAPITOL. Turn them in to the League office (address above) at frequent intervals, when you wish, but TURN THEM IN.

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Telephone

Calls to: _____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

Telegraph

Messages to: _____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

TOTAL Telephone and Telegraph \$ _____

Food (lunch, snacks, etc.): \$ _____

Transportation: Car _____ miles

Parking \$ _____

Bus or other conveyance \$ _____

Sitter: _____ hours, @ \$ _____ Total \$ _____

Miscellaneous: _____

Comments: _____

Publications mailed to Legislators 1957 1958

Oct. 1957 1957 Legislative Report and a form letter informing ~~the~~
the legislators of the newly elected State Board members

Jan. 1958 "Will an area amendment settle reapportionment in Minnesota?.

July 1958 Candidates Questionnaire Local Leagues were responsible
for interviewing and collecting questionnaires.

Dec. 1958 Three publication on our State Program were mailed to all
successful candidates in the primary for the state legislature
in areas where we had no Leagues. Leagues were urged to do
same for their elected Representatives and Senators.

Nov. 1958 Letters of congratulations were mailed to all newly elected
legislators and state publications were included in their
mailing.

Publications mailed to Local Leagues for the legislative program

Lobby by letter kit
Legislative Responsibilities
Legislative Tours
Legislative Observers
~~Capital/Chart~~ Simplified Map of Minnesota Capitol
Legislative Etiquette
The Do's and Don'ts of Lobbying

Legislative Activities- 1959 Session

by Doris Guthrie

I. Lobbying Activities concerned with Influencing Legislation.

A. Securing Authors.

This requires a great deal of skill to select the right ones.

B. Helping to draft legislation.

This is also a highly skilled service.

C. Providing information for legislators.

This is a service that League people can do very well. We have used it to great advantage in the complicated field of reapportionment.

C. Testifying at committee hearings.

This is one of our star functions.

Well prepared testimony could be prepared stating the League position in detail, then mimeographed copies could be given to the committee members and to the press.

D. Direct lobbying.

Individual legislators are contacted by lobbyist with the idea of soliciting their vote.

Individual Leagues are notified of their legislators position by League lobbyist and asked to make the contact. This puts the responsibility directly on the constituent or individual League member.

E. Maneuvering legislation.

This means piloting legislation from author to committee to House and Senate and through conference committee.

The maneuvering may expedite legislation, but is very time consuming, and puts a great deal of emphasis on our lobbying activities.

F. Arranging for testimony by political scientists, experts, citizen groups etc. before the committee hearing.

G. Working for bi-partisan support of legislation through the Bi-Partisan Committee.

A great deal of time was spent on this. It is effective as a way to disseminate information through the state by the parties. It was not effective in supporting legislation because the League is interested in issues and the parties are interested in personalities and in embarrassing each other publicly.

Legislative Activities- 1959

II. Services for Local Leagues and Individual Members.

A. Capitol Letter.

This has been terrific. It has included information on all phases of legislative activity and progress reports of League supported legislation.

It requires many hours of attendance at the legislature to get the material for the articles.

B. Calls for Action.

These calls went out through Capitol Letter.

C. Legislators Observers Course.

This seemed very successful this time because it was new and because it gave an interesting picture of the legislative processes to around a hundred League members.

The list of speakers included most of the top legislative personalities from the governor down. Observers also reported on their visits to committees.

The Observers Program included many League Women at the Capitol on many days. We also strained the facilities of the committee rooms when we filled them week after week. Although legislators are very busy they seemed very anxious to talk to our groups.

Perhaps for next year the number of days scheduled could be cut down. Only metropolitan leagues participated this year. Next year two or three Observers days might be scheduled for out state leagues.

D. Legislative Day.

Legislative Day gave a picture of our legislative activity to all of our local leagues, and for this reason seems invaluable.

E. Hostess Service for Local Leagues.

Ever since the Tours were discontinued there has been a need for this service. Perhaps the local leagues could continue to choose their visiting date, make their own arrangements, and notify the office or legislative chairman of the day and time, then a Hostess on the legislative committee, (who has been chosen for this job), could meet the Leagues and Hostess them around the Capitol.

F. A combination of Tours and Legislative Observers Days might be worked out to good advantage but only if a room can be arranged for satisfactorily ahead of time.

memo to Anne Green, Mary Mantis, and Dorothy Anderson, from G. Wilson July 9, 1958

I think this is so hard to do by correspondence, but guess there is no other way at present.

As I looked over your memo, Anne, to Noreen McCarthy, which I am forwarding to M. Mantis with this, I felt a need to get down on paper, in chart form if possible, the inter-relationships of the work of Legislation and Resource.

I looked back into Mari Donchue's Legislative Work of 1953, which she reported on fully and completely, and I took her sheets, modifying them somewhat.

LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

STATE CONVENTION - Votes League Program, thus deciding LNV support in 1959 session

STATE BOARD - Authorized to decide when membership is prepared to take action, when such action is timely, to decide on support or opposition to specific legislation, to determine the timing for Calls to Action

STATE LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN, and Committee - Supervises all League work at the Legislature. Keeps Board informed on progress of bills and timing for Calls to Action.

Arranges publishing of Legislative Newsletter. (1 Committee Member, the Editor)

Arranges Workshops for Local League Legislative Chairmen. (1 Committee Member)

Plans Legislative Tours, or tells Local Leagues how to do so.

Writes letters to Candidates, before election, to Legislators after election, on LNV Legislative Program.

Arranges statements to Committee Hearings of Legislature.

Helps local Leagues with ideas on getting legislative action from members & public

Makes Legislative Report at end of Session. (The Editor?)

LOBBY CHAIRMAN - there are 4 of these - (Constitutional revision or/and convention _____)

(Reapportionment _____)

(Party Designation _____)

(FEPC _____)

Sees that all sessions concerned with her particular program item are attended.

Reports to State Legislative Chairmen progress of bills and on timing for action.

Reports to Editor of Legislative Newsletter, either direct, or thru Leg. Chairman.

She should have enough committee members to do the above.

RESOURCE CHAIRMAN on State Board or Committees -

there are 4 jobs here- Constitutional revision

Reapportionment

Party Designation

FEPC

Main job of Resource Chairmen is to prepare materials, help legislative Chairmen in subject matter portion of contents of bills and worthiness of support, newsletter subject matter when question arises, training in subject matter at Workshops for Local League Legislative Chairmen and for Lobbyists, Helps with or probably makes statements to Legislative Committee Hearings,

LOBBY CHAIRMAN and the RESOURCE CHAIRMAN may in some cases be the same person, but that is assuming that the person has both research and scholarly ability, as well as the knack of persuading a reluctant legislator. It is also putting the load on so few shoulders, I think.

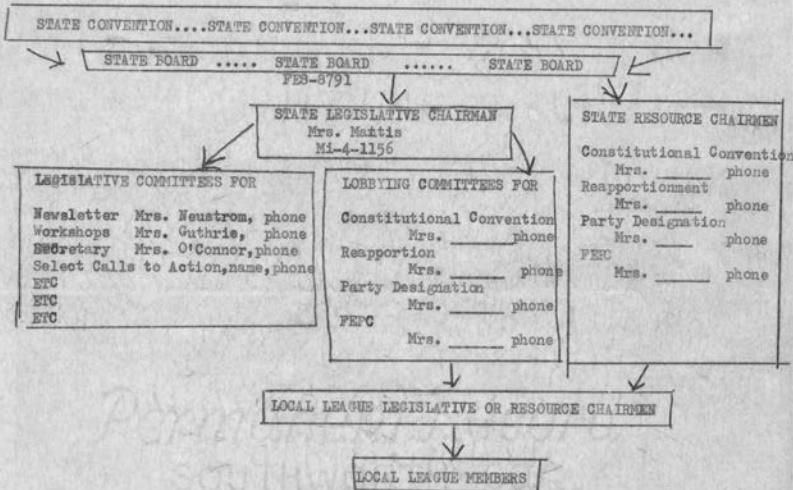
LOCAL LEAGUE LEGISLATIVE or in many cases STATE RESOURCE CHAIRMAN - Responds to state Calls to Action, keeps in touch with own legislator at home, keeps state board informed of local League opinion on legislation, and also of community's stand.

Keeps Local League members informed of State Legislation status, also community.

LOCAL LEAGUE MEMBER - Keep informed, answer calls to Action, visit legislature.

STATE OFFICE - Chief Liaison

LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES CHART



League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
October 1958 102158CCC - 24

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS OF LOCAL LEAGUES IN MINNESOTA

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

(23 Legislative Districts with no Leagues - 1,2,3,6,8,9,12,15,17,18,21,25,26,46,
48,51,54,55,56,64,65,66,67.

Legis. Chronology

LEGISLATION

8/1/57 - Board Minutes
with the Bi-Partisan Committee.

Mrs. Mantis reported that she's planning a meeting of the legislative committee soon and possibly a combined meeting with the Bi-Partisan Committee.

Mrs. Mantis was instructed to write to each legislator and ask them to respond if they wish a copy of the League's 1957 Legislative Report to be sent to them free.

Give to your Legislative Chairman for her notebook

LEGISLATION

9/20/57

Pres. Letter
lation this year.

Plans for the year - See the State Board Report, July 1957, page 7, for the League's outlook for work in the field of Legis-

LEGISLATIVE Board Minutes
10/10/57

Mrs. Mantis reported on the September 23rd meeting of this committee. She announced that the League will see if it can be of some help in reactivating the Bi-Partisan Committee. Letters will be sent to both the DFL and Republicans to ask that they send representatives to attend a luncheon October 29 at which League representatives will meet with Bi-Partisan Committee representatives to make plans.

Either Mrs. Hargraves or Mrs. Young will be asked to be the League's representative on the Minnesota Citizens Constitutional Committee.

LEGISLATIVE (Cont.)

Mrs. Mantis announced that requests from the Legislators asking the League to send them complimentary copies of the 1957 Legislative Report have been very numerous - 44 Senators, 62 Representatives. A discussion on the possibility of an extra Voter being devoted to a condensed version of the Legislative Report was held.

LEGISLATIVE Board
11/22/57 Minutes

Mrs. Mantis reported that a luncheon for the Bi-partisan Legislative Committee was held on October 26 at which were two Republicans and four D.F.L. members. Both parties felt that the committee could serve a very worthwhile purpose and another meeting will be held in January with two more Republicans appointed by that time and at which meeting more concrete plans will be made. This committee feels that the key to success right now is Party Designation and strongly suggests the League channel their efforts in this direction.

Mrs. Mantis suggested the possibility of a legislative committee throughout the state with a chairman in each district. This committee could incorporate members of the Bi-partisan Committee and work together for the legislative program.

The reapportionment material prepared by Mrs. Kane was mailed to all legislators.

Mrs. Mantis announced that Mrs. Will Jones, who is a voting member on the Minnesota Council on Human and Civil Rights, will also serve as observer to this group for the League, if we approve. It was agreed.

An announcement of a luncheon at Coffman Union, Nov. 26, with Mayor Peterson of Minneapolis and Commissioner Carlson of St. Paul speaking in answer to objections to constitutional convention was made. St. Paul and Minneapolis radio chairmen planned the meeting at which Mrs. Mantis will preside.

SPRING AREA Board
CONFERENCES Minutes
11/22/57

Mrs. Marotta reported for a committee including Mrs. Watson and Mrs. Sigford a suggestion that the spring area conferences be held in March when "how to bring the program to the community" will be the purpose and Constitutional Revision and Reapportionment will be the subjects. The conferences, it is suggested, might be held in Duluth, Moorhead, Worthington, Austin, Hennepin County and Ramsey County. Plans call for specific workshops on the following subjects: public meetings, speakers, visual aids, press, publications designed for community use, radio and TV, working with other organizations, and lobbying. It was suggested that a luncheon be planned with a headline speaker or panel, that a question period follow the talk, and that visitors outside the League be invited to attend. At the end of the conferences League members will be asked to fill out evaluation sheets. Mrs. Green, Mantis, Hill and Angrist will serve as the committee and they will pick their own chairman. Preliminary plans should be all ready by January but hostess Leagues should be notified before Christmas.

LEGISLATION Mrs. Mantis reported that the Bi-partisan committee isn't complete yet but a meeting is being planned for late January and it is hoped that some definite plans will come out of this meeting. Mrs. Mantis outlined many reasons why she felt the area conferences with the subject matter, Constitutional Convention and Reapportionment, planned for this spring, should be held next fall instead. A lengthy discussion followed, resulting in the area conferences being left as now planned, in the spring.

AREA Mrs. Green reported on the plans for the spring area conferences on
CONFERENCES taking League Program to the Community.

1. Preliminary plans have been made with places and dates set for 7 conferences.
2. An announcement will be in both January and February President's letters.
3. The emphasis at these conferences will be on techniques and mechanics of Public Relations. The subject matter of Constitutional Convention and Reapportionment will be used to illustrate points made.
4. Dividing into workshops has been a suggestion which came from the area conferences held in the fall.
 - a. Speakers bureau and public meetings.
 - b. Lobbying and working with other organizations.
5. The speakers at luncheon would be on Radio, TV or Public Relations -- or on Constitutional Convention and Reapportionment -- or a combination of these. (This part of the program needs further planning.)
6. This would be a good time to launch the revised edition of "The State You're In"
7. The possibility of inaugurating the use of the stickers calling attention to the need for a new Constitution was discussed.

LEGISLATION

2/6/58

Board Minutes

Mrs. Mantis reported that the Bipartisan committee now is composed of four Republicans and three Democrats and it is hoped that the committee will be completed soon. A popular type folder for Party Designation is now being prepared and also a popular tool for Reapportionment is being planned. The Board decided that if an agreement can be worked out, the League will work with the Bipartisan committee to get out a joint questionnaire to legislators before the primaries.

Mrs. Mantis has tentative plans for a legislative newsletter of 16 issues starting in June, with 8 issues during the legislative session. These subscriptions could be sold to legislators, newspaper editors, party people, farm organizations, etc.

Give to your Legislative Chairman for her notebook

LEGISLATION

3/24/58

Yes. Letter
to the press.

We encourage you to ask your legislator if he can spare you a copy of the "blue book" -- the Legislative Manual, 1957-58, a wonderful source of much valuable information, just off

Enclosed is a popular type folder, Party Designation for Legislators, which was given to all who attended the Area Conferences this March and April. It was planned to be used to persuade the public to be concerned, as are the Republican and Democratic-Farmer-Labor parties and the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, about this issue and to work for the passage of a P.D. law. It will be helpful at all political party activities, from now on -- caucuses, conventions, campaigns. The State Committee has contacted State headquarters of both parties. Local Leagues' best prospects are League members and non party members in your town. We are offering bulk prices: 5000 for \$75 (hal); 1000 for \$17.50; 500 for \$10; 100 for \$2.50.

See enclosure.

Outlook for Work - Board Minutes 4/10/58

Legislation - Mrs. Mantis

1. The responsibility of the local League legislative chairman will be stressed and also the importance of lobbying from home.
2. Letters of congratulation will be sent to all new legislators and will include some League publications.
3. A lobby training session at the Capitol will be held in October and the legislative newsletter will be introduced.
4. In November an all-out campaign for passing League endorsed legislation will be inaugurated.
5. In January, lobbying in person will be done by a small committee, for 90 days!
6. A legislative day is planned for February.
7. The legislative report will come out in May.

The Legislative Chairman's notebook should contain: Local League Handbook, Publications Catalogs, Tips on Carrying Out Program, (available from LWV of U.S.); Ninety Days of Lawmaking, Legislative Report 1957, A Unit Meeting on Legislative Action, *Legislative Etiquette, *Do's and Don'ts of Lobbying, *Members of Minnesota Legislature, *Legislative and Congressional districts of local leagues in Minnesota, Map of Minnesota showing legislative districts, *Lobby by Letter, *Legislative Newsletter, all publications on state program - constitutional revision, reapportionment, party designation for legislators, FEPC (available from LWV of Minnesota, starred items ready in the fall); your local League Budget and By-laws.

What can we do to push the "Big three" through the next legislative session? Your Legislative committee proposes that we work in the following ways on these three major reforms needed in Minnesota - constitutional revision, reapportionment and party designation for legislators.

First, we stress appointing a legislative chairman in each local League. It is also important that she be acquainted with the duties, which are:

1. arrange tours for her own League
2. be informed on the status of each bill
3. be responsible for calls to action
4. lobby at home
5. give a report to her League at the end of the session.

Our aim this year is to stress lobbying at home before the legislator leaves for the Capitol. Suggestions for lobbying at home are:

1. invite the candidate to some local function
2. talk with him informally about the League program
3. congratulate him on filing
4. give him material on program whenever possible and preserve contact.

The July-August Minnesota Voter will feature lobbying and letter writing and will advertise the Legislative Newsletter, to sell subscriptions.

The Legislative Newsletter (cost \$1.00) will be aimed at the individual member, to provide information, arouse interest, and get action on state legislation. There will be 8 to 10 issues, one every other week starting right after Christmas. The last issue will be a Legislative Report, probably in an enlarged issue of the Voter.

September is the primary election - contact the winning candidates in person or by letter to congratulate them. The state office hopes to mail them the three folders on the "Big three."

In October the Legislative Workshop will be held and will feature opponents as well as supporters of our bills to sharpen our wits. At this workshop the 1959 edition of the Lobby by Letter Kit will be unveiled. This workshop is planned for two representatives from each local League.

After the November election contact the winning candidate in person if possible, or by letter, and inform him that you hope to see and talk with him on the League's legislative program before the session.

In December a Training Meeting on how to lobby in person will be held for a small group of well informed members to act as volunteer lobbyists at the Capitol.

During the session all of us in the League will be involved for 90 Days of Lawmaking.

LEGISLATIVE What should be the role of the LWV in the special session? If the 6/12/58 Bd. M. Bergerud-Gillen or other acceptable bill is introduced into that session, the League will send a letter to all legislators telling them of our support and urging their support for the reapportionment. The executive committee will meet to determine whether or not a given bill, when introduced, comes within our position.

"Capitol Approach" will be the name of the legislative newsletter.

LEGISLATIVE Mrs. Mantis announced:

8/7/59 Beave Minutes

1. There will be a Legislative Workshop in the Weyerhaeuser Room of the Historical Building at the Capitol in St. Paul on October 8. In the morning the following legislators who oppose League program will speak: Rep. Jensen on Reapportionment, Sen. Rosenmeier on Constitutional Convention and Sen. Feidt on Party Designation. The afternoon program will be a discussion of the morning's talks and each resource chairman will present her plans. The Legislative newsletter will be introduced this day. The August President's letter will announce this workshop and Legislative chairmen and local League Presidents will be asked to attend as well as state Board members and lobbyists.
2. The Sept. Voter will announce the Legislative Newsletter and will contain a subscription blank.
3. Legislative Day has been tentatively set for February 19th.
4. Lobbyists will be limited to about four persons for each item this session with the hope that this will prove more effective. There will be a workshop for these lobbyists the first week in January. Names of lobbyists will be announced at the next Board meeting.
5. A word of caution will appear in the legislative newsletter to all League members who visit the legislature. When they speak they must remember that they represent their League and should therefore be non-partisan, factual, tactful, emphasize issues and not personalities.
6. The Bi-Partisan Committee did not join with the League on the Candidates questionnaires because of organization delays. This committee will meet following the primaries to decide if they shall function further.

Please give to your Legislative Chairman for her notebook.

LEGISLATION

The Legislative Workshop, which is planned to help local Leagues do their part during the Legislative session and to which the local League President and her Legislative Chairman (or reasonable facsimile thereof) are cordially invited will be:

Wednesday, October 8, 9:30 to 3 P.M., Weyerhaeuser Room, Historical Building

This building is next door to the Capitol in St. Paul. Details and a registration blank will be included in the next mailing. The program will include speeches by opponents of our League supported measures, as well as discussion of how to answer these arguments; the Legislative Newsletter will be launched, with the first sample copy available, and subscriptions will be sold; a kit for Lobbyists by Letter will be featured.

LEGISLATIVE

9/4/58

Reagan M.A.

Registration

Mrs. Mantis reported that her committee has met and worked on the plans for the Legislative Workshop to be held October 8. The \$2.50 registration fee will include luncheon and also the "Lobby by Letter" kit.

The committee decided the legislative newsletter will be called "A Legislative Letter" although there was some dissension in the committee. The next Voter will include an extra page with a sample "Legislative Letter" and an order blank.

The Bi-partisan committee will have a final meeting in September to decide whether or not to continue to function.

Free reprints of the state Constitution may be obtained simply by request from the Secretary of State's office. If enough can be gotten, they may be included in the Lobby by Letter kits.

LEGISLATIVE Mrs. Mantis displayed the new Lobby by Letter kit. It contains
10/2/58 three new folders and fact sheets on our state items - which will
be of interest to legislators, League members, public - Ninety Days of Lawmaking,
state constitution and a map of legislative districts. Speakers at the Legislative
Workshop, October 8, will be Senator Donald Wright, Rep. Carl Jensen, and Senator
Dan Feidt.

Mrs. Mantis attended a meeting of the Minnesota Council on Civil
and Human Rights as an observer, in connection with the League's interest in FEPC.

Mrs. Mantis said the people who had signed up for lobbying at the
spring area conferences would be encouraged to observe the Legislature in action
two or three days a month.

She reported that a plan to meet with the Bipartisan Committee had
been cancelled until after the election.

The three folders on Party Designation, Reapportionment and
Constitutional Convention will go to all candidates for the legislature; by the
state office in districts where there are no local Leagues and by local Leagues
for their own districts.

Please give to your Legislative Chairman for her notebook.

10/16/58

LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN

Pres. Letter

If a Legislative Chairman has not as yet been appointed
in your League, please find one, or assign the job to
another board member as an added duty, and let us know her name.

Some Leagues have requested a clarification of the
duties of a Legislative Chairman. So a sheet will be prepared this month for your
guidance.

The D/V State Board is sending the enclosed letter with
our three new folders on Constitutional Convention, Reapportionment and Party Designation to all Legislative Candidates in areas in Minnesota where we have no local
Leagues. We wish that all of you local Leagues would do the same for the Legislative
Candidates in your districts. Would you please let us know if you will, or if you
can't, so we can know? You might use the enclosed letter as a pattern, or as a
starting point, for writing a letter of your own that is personalized and localized.
Or better still, a personal conversation with your candidates, after which you leave
the 3 folders with them, would be the most effective technique of all.

The Lobby by Letter Kit enclosed is our pride and joy
for October. Many of you received one at the Legislative Workshop October 8. We
think there should be at least one in every unit in Minnesota, and when the unit mem-
bers see it, many will want to buy their personal copy. So make it easy for them.
It is a real bargain, being worth more than 50¢, but for sale as a packet for 35¢.

CAPITOL LETTER - a legislative bulletin, available for
\$1.00 subscription, was announced at the Legislative Workshop, and a sample copy of
it is printed on the last page of the September-October Minnesota Voter, which you
have just received. Read it over, and see if you don't think it is an indispensable
treasure for every League member to have. Again, we think a subscription for this
letter should go to every unit in Minnesota. And many Leagues are subscribing for
every board member. Use the handy form in the Minnesota Voter, attach to it \$1.00,
send to the state office, and you are set for the Legislative Session. It will be
as if YOU ARE THERE!

LEGISLATIVE Mrs. Mantis gave this evaluation of the Legislative Workshop held
11/14/58 October 8th. The opponents of the League's program items of Party
Board Min. Designation, Reapportionment and Constitutional Convention presented a weak case.
In any future meetings of this kind more precise questions will be asked of the
legislators. The legislative committee is visiting 20 Leagues in the suburbs to
increase the number of subscriptions to the Capitol Letter and to increase use of
the Lobby by Letter kits. A letter of congratulations and the three folders on
the League state items was sent to all successful candidates in the primary for
the state legislature where there are no Leagues. Local Leagues are urged to do
same for their elected state representatives and senators. There will be a workshop
for lobbyists in January. Compilation of answers to Leagues questionnaires was
sent to Minneapolis, St. Paul, Red Wing and Duluth newspapers.

Please give to the Legislative Chairman on your Board for her notebook. 11/21/58

LEGISLATIVE

Pres. Letter

The 1959 session of the Legislature is before us, and
the Legislative Committee has prepared the following
sheets to assist local Leagues with the state program: "Legislative Responsibilities"
which includes Tours, "Legislative Districts of Local Leagues in Minnesota," and
"League Observers." (3 enclosures)

If you have not as yet congratulated your legislator,
will you please drop him a note or see him in person? At the same time, you should
give him our three new folders on party designation, constitutional convention and
reapportionment. Our aim is to provide every legislator with these folders as an
introduction to our position.

As is noted in the paragraph addressed to the Publication
Chairman in your League, many local Leagues are promoting the subscription to the
"Capitol Letter" (the League legislative bulletin for \$1.00) through their units.
If your League has not already received forms for this purpose, we have enclosed
enough copies for your units in this mailing. We hope every unit in Minnesota will
have a number of subscribers. It's a real bargain for \$1.00! (enclosure)

LEGISLATIVE Mrs. Wilson reported in the absence of Mrs. Mantis who had to leave
12/4/58 the meeting that 1) the Legislative Committee had met with Mr. Westin,
(Senate Conservative) and Mrs. Luther (House Liberal) to discuss our program and prospects and plans to get it passed, and 2) that they had conferred with the Executive Secretaries of both parties, and 3) will meet with the new members of the Bipartisan Committee December 8 to discuss plans for the legislative session.

11) Legislative - Mrs. Mantis. The small group of lobbyists this year will be asked to keep accurate accounts of expenses and then at the end of the session the expense money will be pro-rated among them. Recommendation \$200. A true accounting of this item will be ready for Convention. Budget Building

Please give to your Legislative Chairman for her notebook. Page 2 12/12/58

LEGISLATION

Pres. Letter

Attention, Legislative Observers! Plan to attend the first meeting arranged for you on Wednesday, January 14, at 10 A.M. in the Weyerhaeuser Room of the Historical Society. This building is next door to the Capitol (Cedar St. and Central Ave.), and is connected by tunnel to the Capitol building. Plans are under way for an exciting introduction to the Legislature, which we hope will include a greeting from the Governor, a tour of the Capitol, a visit to House and Senate sessions and committee meetings, and perhaps a chance to hear Arthur Naftalin, Commissioner of the Department of Administration, speak to a joint meeting of the Freshman legislators on the executive branch of state government. The most important part of the meeting will be to make specific assignments for visiting committees during the session. Informal cafeteria lunch may be had at a nearby cafeteria. If your League has not sent in the names of your Legislative Observers yet, do so please at your earliest convenience. (See November, 1958, President's Letter enclosure on Legislative Observers.)

Legislative Day will be held this year on Wednesday, February 18 *, in our favorite meeting place, the Weyerhaeuser Room of the Historical Society (address above). Two people from each League are invited to attend. We will convene at 9:30 for registration, and a program of timely interest on our bills will be prepared for you. We will call on Legislative leaders and League lobbyists to bring you this latest information. The fee will probably be about \$2.50. An agenda and a reservation form will be included in the January President's Letter.

Capitol Letter - 442 Subscriptions sold to date!

Isn't that wonderful? Don't you want to hop on the band wagon? First issue goes out between Christmas and New Years, so you have only a few days left to order. Last call!

* not February 20, as noted in last paragraph of Legislative Observers sheet, 11/58.

LEGISLATIVE Mrs. Mantis reported:

- 1) The Capitol Letter is proving very popular and the next issue will contain the report of the Governor's Committee on Reapportionment and will also list committees.
- 2) A letter was sent to the Bi-partisan committee requesting their presence at a luncheon on January 13 in the committee room off of the cafeteria in the Capitol, at which time the future of the committee will be decided.
- 3) The Legislative Observers meeting will be held on Jan. 14 in the Weyerhaeuser Room of the Historical Society Bldg. At this time it is possible these observers will be assigned to committees. They will observe the orientation session for freshman legislators in the afternoon.
- 4) A lengthy discussion was held on the following: The St. Louis Park League has asked permission to use a part of a list of the members of the Minn. Employers Assoc. to send personal letters to, asking them how they feel about the League's State program. It was decided that this couldn't be a St. Louis Park project alone so Mrs. Angrist will get together with the St. Louis Park League and they will compose a letter which will be signed by Mrs. Anderson. Mrs. Mantis will explain the Board decision on this matter to Mrs. Thompson.
- 4) Delight in the Capitol Letter was expressed by Mrs. Anderson and by all Board members. A motion was made by Miss Salisbury and seconded by Mrs. Janski that the secretary be instructed to write a letter to the editor, Mrs. Newstrom, commending her and her staff. The motion carried. The subscription list has now gone over 800. A complimentary copy will be sent to the Governor's office. It was mentioned that Gov. Freeman offered to appear on a League radio program to be interviewed on his Ethics Report. L. Kuderling will conduct the interview on January 20.

1/8/59
Board
Minutes

LEGISLATION

Enclosed in this mailing are two wonderful packets of information for you -- the Report by the Minnesota Governor's Committee on Ethics in Government and the Report of the Governor's Committee on Reapportionment. You will find them exciting and valuable reading in this legislative session. (Enclosure, Ethics Report, more available on request, free)
(Enclosure, Reapportionment, limited number for sale, 30¢)

The Legislative Observer's Course had a very successful first meeting January 14th. About 80 Leaguers attended, heard the Governor's Budget message and received copies of it, toured the Capitol, heard Sally Luther talk about how the Legislature operates, listened in on the orientation session for "freshman" House members. We are sending you a copy of the agenda for the course, a map of the Capitol, and a sheet on etiquette. (3 Enclosures)

Legislative Day - The theme of the day will be a PROGRESS REPORT ON LEAGUE LEGISLATION. It is Wednesday, February 18, registration starting at 9:30 and program at 10 A.M., as we told you in the December President's Letter. But some changes have been made, so note these: the place is changed to Room 513 in the beautiful new State Highway Building; the parking lot on Rice and Rondo that says "For Highway Employees Only" is for us to use; the lunch is cafeteria style (and our "sample" was for gourmets) so you order what you want and need not make reservations; there is no registration fee, though we may tempt you with some publications. We have decided to limit the attendance of metropolitan area Leagues to two persons (since these Leagues are getting such good help through the Observers Program) and to put no limit on the number who may come in from all our other Leagues. Will you return form below to State Office by February 12, estimating how many from your League will attend, so our "chef" can be prepared?
The DMV of _____ expects to have _____ attending Legislative Day, February 18.

(Signed) _____

LEGISLATION

2/5/59

Mrs. Mantis reported:

1. The Legislative Observers have had two meetings with good attendance at both. Another meeting is planned for next Wednesday.
2. The Bipartisan Committee, which now has five members from each party, will meet Monday, February 9, before the Party Designation bill is to be heard.
3. The National Council of Jewish Women wishes to assist the League where they can on the three items of legislation that are mutual interests of both organizations.
4. The Capitol Letter now has 1170 subscribers and has brought forth many favorable comments.
5. The FEPC bill passed during a previous legislative session now has a proposed amendment adding discrimination by age to it. A discussion on this resulted in the decision that the League will take no action on this matter.
6. Mrs. Mantis will write to the editor of the Minneapolis Morning Tribune commending him for the editorial on Party Designation appearing in the February 5 edition.

LEGISLATIVE 2/5/59

Mrs. Mantis reported: Board Minutes

- 1) A special call to action was sent to Olivia. They are to ask Sen. Lauerman to make a motion to reconsider the Constitutional Convention bill.
- 2) The Party Designation bill is now in the Senate Judiciary Committee. Letters have been sent to all Leagues with Senators on this committee. They are to urge the Senators to bring this bill back to the floor.
- 3) Legislative Day was very successful with 100 women attending.
- 4) Permission was granted to have the last issue of the Capitol Letter contain a review of the session instead of the previously planned 6 page Voter. This issue of the Capitol Letter will be sent to all members.
- 5) Thursday, March 12, will be the next Legislative Observers Day.

LEGISLATION

Mrs. Mantis reported:

4/2/59 - Board Minutes

- 1) Legislative Observers will be invited to attend the Convention banquet.
- 2) Legislative Observers will continue to be watchful during the non-legislative year of the activities of Interim Committees and Commissions.
- 3) No more releases will be issued from the Bipartisan Committee without the League's consent. The future of this committee is still in doubt.
- 4) The status of League-supported legislation is as follows:
 - a) The Party Designation Bill has been turned over to a sub-committee.
 - b) Nothing further can be done with the Constitutional Convention Bill as the Senate accepted the committee's recommendation that it not be considered.
 - c) There is no Election Law Bill in the House to match the Bill in the Senate.
- 5) There will be three more issues of the Capitol Letter.
- 6) There was a Call for Action issued to 12 Leagues to enlist support for the Home Rule Bill, H.F.651.
- 7) A questionnaire will be sent out in the next President's Letter to all local League Legislative Chairmen to determine the value to local Leagues of: legislative tours, Capitol Letter, and what were the responses they made to Calls to Action, etc.
- 8) A display for the Convention will be prepared by Miss Salisbury to show where the releases of the Capitol Letter were used.

Please give to the Legislative Chairman for her notebook 4/10/59

LEGISLATION

The last Legislative Observers Day will be April 22. We will meet in Governor's Dining Room at 10 A.M.

Pres. Letter

Enclosed in this mailing are a reprint of an editorial on Ethics legislation, and a statement released by the President, Mrs. Anderson, to certain legislators and the press to clarify the DUV's reapportionment stand and its mode of operation. The next issue of the Capitol Letter will be the week of April 27, probably; a final issue will be prepared the week of May 4, and will be mailed to every League member. Good?

Your State Legislative Chairman sometimes feels she is working in a vacuum, not knowing whether the words she sends out through the mail are read and heeded. Therefore, would you mind filling out just one more questionnaire, a very short one, below, and return to the State Office by May 10?

(Enclosures)

My opinion of the Capitol Letter is _____.

Would you subscribe next session if the cost were higher, perhaps \$2.00? _____

If your League conducted Tours to the Legislature, how many persons _____

attended how many times _____ (this is not including Legislative Observers);

To what extent did your League respond when you received Calls to Action? _____

Any advice for us? _____

(please sign name and League) _____

LEGISLATION

Mrs. Mantis reported: 1. Reapportionment is at present in Committee and there is a possibility a statute bill might be passed. 2. The State Jaycees will work for a Constitutional Convention. 3. The Legislative Observers will continue to be watchful of any interim committees after the session. 4. The MEA releases will be continued until after the Convention. 5. A legislative guidebook will be prepared from past experiences and will be for the use of future legislative committees and lobbyists. 6. A questionnaire will be prepared by Mrs. Anderson and will be sent to all legislative observers and lobbyists. 7. The final copy of the Capitol Letter will go out to every member as originally planned. 4/30/59

Area Conferences

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th and Washington Avenues S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minnesota. March-April 1958

MEMBERS OF PARTY DESIGNATION PANELS for AREA CONFERENCES, March-April 1958

<u>Place & Chairman</u>	<u>Political Scientist</u>	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat-Farmer-Labor</u>
I. St. Louis Park Mrs. Homer Mantis St. Paul	Floyd Flom, Asst. Professor Political Science, University of Minnesota Minneapolis	Mrs. C.E. Howard Past Chairwoman Republican Party, Regent U. of M., Extension Chairman national Republican Workshop; Wayzata.	Mrs. Robert Green Vice-chairwoman 3rd District DFL St. Louis Park
II. Austin Mrs. Kenneth Green Roseville	Roger W. Moen, Social Studies Teacher, Austin Junior-Senior High School; Austin	Mrs. John Grindlay, co-chm. Olmstead County Republican Party; Rochester.	Mrs. Margaret Thompson, Chairwoman DFL in 1st Congressional District; Rochester
III. Columbia Heights Mrs. Homer Mantis St. Paul	Asher Christensen, Professor Political Science, University of Minnesota; Roseville	Mrs. Stanley G. Peterson Executive Secretary national Republican Workshop; Mpls.	Walter Mondale * Minneapolis attorney, active Freeman's campaign
IV. Worthington Mrs. Walter Angrist Deephaven	Wayne Bassett* Librarian, with Political Science Degree Worthington	Mrs. Inez Madsen, Past chair- woman Nobles County, now 3rd V.P., State Central Committee Worthington	Mr. Roland Muller, *Past treasurer State DFL, officer Cottonwood County DFL; Windom
V. North St. Paul Mrs. O. H. Anderson Mahtomedi	Asher Christensen, Professor Political Science, University of Minnesota; Roseville	Mrs. David Raudenbush, Pres. Washington, Dakota, Ramsey County Republican Workshop; St. Paul	Mr. William Carlson, County Commissioner Ramsey County, former state legislator; St. Paul
VI. Virginia Mrs. Walter Angrist Deephaven	Emil A. Erickson, Professor Virginia Junior College Virginia	Mrs. Loren Schneider * St. Louis County Chairwoman Duluth	Mr. Peter Fugina, * legislator St. Louis County DFL Chairman Virginia
VII. Moorhead Mrs. Kenneth Green Roseville	Harding C. Noblitt, Professor Concordia College, Moorhead	Mrs. Vincent Dworak* former field worker for State Central Committee	Mr. Marvin Evenson*, 9 District DFL Chairman, businessman Moorhead.

* means "or substitute"

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington Avenues S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minnesota. March-April 1958

AGENDA AND TIME SCHEDULE FOR AREA CONFERENCES, March-April 1958

<u>Time</u>	<u>What we do now</u>	<u>Who Does It</u>
9:30 - 10	REGISTRATION - Name, address, League should be listed Name Tags for everyone, Name and League Kit of materials for each person includes: List of publications mentioned in Skit, Check list for selling campaign, Agendas for 3 Section meetings, Amendment material, Party Designation Folder Sell "The State You're In," hot off the press, for 85¢	LOCAL LEAGUE COMMITTEE
10 A.M.	GREETINGS - Then introduce Chairman of the Conference INTRODUCTORY REMARKS	LOCAL LEAGUE PRESIDENT.
10:05 - 10:30	TALK ON LEAGUE, and the pride we have in League heritage HOW TO GO ABOUT LAYING PUBLIC RELATIONS PLANS	STATE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONFERENCE
10:30 - 10:50	SKIT on Using Publications to Take League Program to Community	SECTION I LEADER LOCAL LEAGUE MEMBERS
10:50 - 12:20	The whole group will divide into 3 sections, coffee will be served informally at each section. Choose your section; SECTION I - Reaching the Public Through Mass Media (radio, TV, press) SECTION II - Reaching the Public in Person (speakers, public meetings) SECTION III - Reaching your Legislator (in person, through leaders) Display boards will be at each Section.	SECTION I LEADER SECTION II LEADER SECTION III LEADER
12:30	LUNCH	
1:30	WELCOME, INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS (Panel & local guests)	LOCAL LEAGUE COMMITTEE LOCAL LEAGUE PRESIDENT
1:35	PANEL ON PARTY DESIGNATION FOR LEGISLATORS, Chairman Chairman introduces subject by giving brief resume of League activity in P.D. field, then introduces members of panel who are..... RECORDER, from local League, writes full report of discussion for state	LEAGUE MEMBER (POLITICAL SCIENTIST REPUBLICAN DEMOCRAT-FARMER-LABOR
2:30	THANKS (to panel, local League President & committees, give 35¢ to panel)	STATE CHAIRMAN OF CONF.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, LITERATURE, AND THE ARTS
MINNEAPOLIS 14

NOV 18 1957

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

November 15, 1957

Mrs. Homer Mantis
Legislative Chairman
League of Women Voters
of Minnesota
15th and Washington Ave.S.E.
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Mantis:

Thank you so much for inviting me to attend the luncheon on Tuesday, November 26. I will attend so will you please make a reservation for me? The topic for discussion, as you know, is one that interests me very much.

Cordially yours,



A.N. Christensen

ANCAe

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, LITERATURE, AND THE ARTS
MINNEAPOLIS 14

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

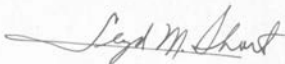
November 15, 1957

Mrs. Homer Mantis, Legislative Chairman
League of Women Voters of Minnesota
15th and Washington S.E.
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Mantis:

I will be glad to attend the
luncheon meeting on Tuesday, November 26.
Thank you for inviting me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lloyd M. Short". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Lloyd M. Short

LMS:h1

MRS. WILLIAM W. WHITING
622 EAST SCHOOL STREET
GWATONNA, MINNESOTA
February 24, 1958

Dear Mary,

A letter from Barb Carlson asks for preliminary plans for all Council Workshops be presented at the March Board meeting and states that you will work with Dorothy Anderson, Sis Salisbury, and myself on the Finance Workshop.

Your work with Legislation is not possible without sound financing so I am sure you will have some good ideas for us.

One hour doesn't give us time to do much more than stimulate some positive thinking on some of the problems that seem to be prevalent in the Leagues. I have suggested to Dorothy that perhaps we could use work groups and do some actual problem solving (picking and developing situations that will bring forth constructive ideas) and then report the results of each group.

I will be interested in your suggestions so that preliminary plans could be drawn up before the meeting next week.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Annette", written in dark ink.

February 10, 1958

Mr. George Farr
Executive Secretary
Democratic Farmer Labor Party
6 East Franklin

Dear Mr. Farr:

Between March 10 and April 1, the League of Women Voters of Minnesota will sponsor seven Area Conferences throughout the state to help its local Leagues take action on our state program.

We would like to have a representative of each political party speak on Party Designation at the Conference luncheons. We wondered whether you could suggest to us the names of representatives from the Democratic Farmer Labor Party who might be available and who would handle this topic well.

I am inclosing a copy of Mrs. Anderson's memo to local League presidents which will tell you when and where the Area Conferences are to be held. We will look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

HE/p

Mrs. Homer Mantis
Legislative Chairman

*Note: Same letter with appropriate
party change sent to
Mrs. R. Harmon
Republican State Central Committee*

~~DA~~

M M.

March 5, 1958

Mr. Hugh Plunkett, Jr.
Babcock Building
Austin, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Plunkett,

Mrs. Mantis told me of your conversation with her this morning. It was nice of you to call. We do appreciate your being willing to speak at our panel or to arrange for Mr. Jacob Herzog to speak in your place.

Enclosed is a list of our panelists statewide, thought you might be interested. If Mr. Herzog does speak, will you give him the letter we sent you, and the enclosures?

Sincerely,

Mrs. Harold Wilson, Secretary

For Mrs. Homer Mantis, on Conference Committee

April 1, 1958

Professor Floyd Flom
Political Science Department
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Professor Flom:

The last of the League's area conferences took place today, and I want to thank you on behalf of the Area Conference Committee for your part in making them a success.

From the many comments that I have heard at conferences throughout the state, I feel that League members have gained new insight into the matter of Party Designation which would have been impossible without the help of academics as well as Democratic and Republican speakers.

Thank you again for your enlightening observations and for giving so generously of your time.

Cordially,

Legislative Chairman

April 3, 1958

Mrs. R. Harmon
Republican Central Committee
Endicott and Robert
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Harmon:

The last of the League's area conferences took place today, and I want to thank you on behalf of the Area Conference Committee for your part in making them a success.

The members of your party who participated in the panels on Party Designation performed very well indeed, and League members throughout the state have gained new insight into this matter which would have been impossible without your cooperation. We hope that you will share our enthusiasm, for we would like very much to do the same sort of thing with a different subject at some future conference.

Thank you again for your splendid cooperation, and we will hope for a successful Party Designation bill in the next session of the Legislature.

Cordially,

Legislative Chairman

April 4, 1958

Mrs. Kenneth Schlenker
2501 Shoda Island
St. Louis Park 26
Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Schlenker:

The last of the League's area conferences took place today, and I want to thank you on behalf of the Area Conference Committee for your gracious help in making the South Barnardin conference a success.

Those of us from the State Board who had an opportunity to participate found the ideas expressed by League members throughout the state highly stimulating. Without your help in arranging a meeting place and that very fine luncheon, this valuable experience would have been impossible for us.

So thank you again for your splendid cooperation and we will hope for many League successes in the coming year.

Very truly yours,

Legislative Chairman

April 11, 1958

Mrs. L. W. Newcomb
1203 Reservoir Boulevard NE
Minneapolis 21, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Newcomb:

The last of the League's area conferences took place today, and I want to thank you on behalf of the Area Conference Committee for your gracious help in making the North Hennepin conference a success.

Those of us from the State Board who had an opportunity to participate found the ideas expressed by League members throughout the state highly stimulating. Without your help this valuable experience would have been impossible for us. Your new church is so lovely and provided a most pleasant meeting place, and of course the luncheon was very good too.

So thank you again for your splendid cooperation and we will hope for many League successes in the coming year.

Very truly yours,

Legislative Chairman

April 1, 1938

Mr. George Farr
Executive Secretary
Democratic Farmer Labor Party
6 Franklin Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Farr:

The last of the League's area conferences took place today, and I want to thank you on behalf of the Area Conference Committee for your part in making them a success.

The members of your party who participated in the panels on Party Designation performed very well indeed, and League members throughout the state have gained new insight into this matter, which would have been impossible without your cooperation. In fact League members responded so enthusiastically to these panels, that we hope to present the same sort of thing on different subjects in the future, if you share our enthusiasm.

Thank you again for your splendid cooperation, and we will hope for a successful Party Designation bill in the next session of the Legislature.

Cordially,

Legislative Chairman

April 1, 1958

Mrs. Stanley G. Peterson
9237 Eleventh Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Peterson:

The last of the League's area conferences took place today, and I want to thank you on behalf of the Area Conference Committee for your part in making them a success.

From the many comments that I have had not only at the Columbia Heights meeting, but elsewhere in the state, I feel that League members have now insight into the matter of Party Designation which would have been impossible without the help of Republican and Democratic speakers.

Thank you again for a job well done, and we will hope for a successful Party Designation bill in the next session of the Legislature.

Cordially,

State Legislative Chairman

April 1, 1958

Professor Asher Christenson
Political Science Department
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Professor Christenson:

The last of the League's area conferences took place today, and I want to thank you on behalf of the Area Conference Committee for your part in making them a success.

Knowing how very busy you are, we certainly appreciate your adding wit as well as intellect to two of the conferences. I feel that League members have gained new insight into the matter of Party Designation which would have been impossible without the help of academic as well as Democratic and Republican speakers.

Thank you again for your enlightening observations and for giving so generously of your time.

Cordially,

Legislative Chairman

April 4, 1958

Mr. Gerald Dillon
132 Forest Avenue
Minneapolis
Minnesota

Dear Mr. Dillon:

The last of the League's area conferences took place today, and I want to thank you for your part in making them a success.

From the many comments that I have had not only at the Columbia Heights meeting, but elsewhere in the state, I feel that League members have new insight into the matter of Party Designation which would have been impossible without the help of Democratic and Republican speakers.

Thank you again for a job well done, and we will hope for a successful Party Designation bill in the next session of the Legislature.

Cordially,

State Legislative Chairman

April 1, 1958

Mrs. C. E. Howard
Excelsior, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Howard:

The last of the League's area conferences took place today, and I finally can take time to thank you for your part in making them a success.

From the many comments that I have had not only at the St. Louis Park meeting, but elsewhere in the state, I feel that League members have new insight into the matter of Party Designation which would have been impossible without the help of Republican and Democratic speakers.

Thank you again for a job well done, and we will hope for a successful Party Designation bill in the next session of the Legislature.

Cordially,

State Legislative Chairman

April 1, 1958

Mrs. Robert Green
4377 Wooddale
Minneapolis 16
Minnesota

Dear Betty:

The last League area conference took place today, so now I can relax and take time to tell you how much we appreciated your help in St. Louis Park. Many many people commented to me on your particular contribution and felt that they had gained a great deal of insight into the need for party designation.

As soon as the dust settles slightly at home, I hope to arrange another meeting of the Bipartisan Committee, and I am particularly hopeful that you will continue to serve as a member. I know that you have many responsibilities, but I also feel that you can make a special contribution.

Thank you again for lending a hand, and we will hope for a successful Party Designation bill in the next session of the Legislature.

Cordially,

Legislative Chairman

April 8, 1958

Mr. Gaylord Sastre
1010 South tenth Street
Moorhead, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Sastre:

I want to thank you on behalf of the League Area
Conference Committee for your participation in the Party
Designation panel.

Substituting at the last minute is always a trial,
and we do appreciate the inconvenience this must have caused
you. Of course I will have to ponder your admonishment to give
up the League and do party work, but meanwhile I am glad to know
that we will be concentrating on the need for party designation.

Thank you again for your help, and we will hope for
a successful bill in the next session of the Legislature.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Homer Morris
Legislative Chairman

MM/p

April 8, 1958

Mrs. David Raudenbush
791 Linwood Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Raudenbush:

Just a word of thanks on behalf of the Area Conference Committee for your part in making the North St. Paul conference so successful.

The very stimulating panel of which you were a member certainly heightened the interest of League members from that area in the Party Designation issue, and without the participation of party members this would have been impossible.

Thank you again for your help, and we still hope for a successful Party Designation Bill in the next session of the Legislature.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Homer Gentile
Legislative Chairman

HM/p

April 8, 1958

Mr. Peter Eugina
5 Merritt Drive
Virginia, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Eugina:

I want to thank you on behalf of the Area Conference Committee for your part in making the Virginia conference a success.

I know how difficult it must have been to take time from your teaching responsibilities to talk to League members, but I am sure that they have much deeper insight into the Party Designation issue because of your fine talk.

Thank you again for your help, and we will hope for a successful Party Designation bill at the next session of the Legislature.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Homer Mantis
Legislative Chairman

MM/p

April 6, 1968

Mrs. John Seetebier
1710 Minnesota Avenue
Duluth, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Seetebier:

On behalf of the League Area Conference Committee, I want to thank you for your fine contribution to the success of the Duluth area conference.

I feel sure that our members now have an understanding of the Party Designation issue that would have been impossible without the splendid cooperation of party members. Of course if I had guessed that you were sitting in on my workshop, I would have put you to work answering some of those questions, but I hope that you found it interesting anyway.

Thank you again for your help, and we will hope for a successful Party Designation bill in the next session.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Homer Martin
Legislative Chairman

MM/p

April 8, 1953

Mr. Marvin Svenson
601 11th North
Moorhead, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Svenson:

I want to thank you on behalf of the Area Conference Committee for your participation in the Party Designation panel.

Your informed and well prepared talk undoubtedly heightened the insight of those who attended, and certainly the organizational work that you have been doing in your area provided you with the conviction that is necessary to put this issue across.

Thank you again for your help, and we will hope for a successful bill in the next session of the Legislature.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Homer Mantis
Legislative Chairman

HM/p

Mary Manki

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA
15th and Washington Avenue S.E. Minneapolis 14, Minnesota
Federal 8-8791

3/12/58

Grace and Roberta:

I told Jane that the Rochester contingent was very enthusiastic about the Austin conference.

One criticism which might be worth noting, our future legislative chairman was disappointed in that nothing was mentioned about the etiquette or do's and don'ts of lobbying. She also wished Doris had mentioned the publications telling them what was what.....what would be best for her to be well acquainted with first etc. I presume Doris considered it taken care of by the skit. X

The new legislative chairman had hoped to learn ways to feel at home with her legislator ~~and~~ how to approach him other than in a letter, etc. Pass this on if you think it's worth it. X

L. Hee



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

3 blocks under
Left on Simpson
and the block
higher red sand

Capital Letter
of MEA

May 15, 1959

Costs of 8 issues of Capitol Letter

Postage	\$338.24	
Mimeographing 2	158.17	
Paper	70.00	
	63.00	
Envelopes	63.00	
Stencils	5.85	
Maps	<u>17.85</u>	\$ 646.11

	<u>Postage</u>	<u>Mimeographing</u>
Issue # 1	42.00	27.95
2	42.00	20.20
3	41.64	17.10
4	42.52	17.70
5	42.52	14.10
6	42.52	26.12
7	42.52	14.70
8	42.52	20.30

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA
15th and Washington Avenues S. E., Minneapolis 14, Minnesota FE 8-8791

M
E
M
O
DATE: May 15, 1959
TO: Jane Angrist, Mary Mantis, Dorothy Anderson
FROM: Roberta
SUBJECT: CAPITOL LETTER - MEA/ RELEASES

I received a phone call early this morning from Harry Sundeen, Minnesota Newspaper Assoc. (formerly Minn. Editorial Assoc.) wanting to congratulate us, and particularly the writer of the MEA releases. Thought they are just wonderful, should be used by every newspaper in the state. Presumed they were just during the Legislative Session and wondered what could be done to "sell" them to the outstate newspapers next session. He has been recommending their use but this morning decided he just had to tell the person responsible for writing them - gave him Lil's phone number. I asked him what he thought of the idea of putting them on every legislator's desk next session - his reply, "it might help educate them, too."

MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE
1959

This list includes the name of each Minnesota Senator and Representative, his legislative district, how he is expected to caucus (C for Conservative, L for Liberal) and his opunity. The asterisk indicates he is a new member this session. His stand on three important state issues, as noted in his answers to the League of Women Voters Questionnaire, is indicated in the last three columns.

1. PARTY DESIGNATION - Do you feel the present system of organizing the legislature along Conservative and Liberal lines instead of Republican and Democratic-Farmer-Labor lines is satisfactory or do you favor party designation for legislators?

Party Designation?(Y) Present system?(N) Undecided?(U) Qualified Answer?(Q)

2. CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION - State constitutions are living documents which must be changed as times and situations change. The amendments to our constitution prove this. Do you feel the present amendment process is adequate or do you favor calling a constitutional convention for the purpose of revision?

Convention?(Conv) Amendments?(Amend) Undecided?(U) Qualified Answer?(Q)

3. LEGISLATIVE REAPPORTIONMENT - The State Constitution states that legislative reapportionment shall take place every ten years. Do you favor reapportionment by population only or do you favor a constitutional amendment providing for some compromise in favor of less populated areas?

Population only?(Pop) Area & Population?(Area) Undecided?(U) Qualified Ans.?(Q)

Address letters to your legislators, State Capitol, St. Paul, Minnesota.

SENATORS

Dist.	Cau.	Name of Senator	County	P.D.	Con.R.	Reap.
1	C*	Lew W. Larson	Fillmore-Houston	Y	Amend	Area
2	C	J. R. Keller	Winona			
3	C	Robert R. Dunlap	Wabasha			
4	L*	A. M. Keith	Olmsted	Y	Conv.	Pop.
5	C	P. J. Holand	Dodge-Mower	N	Amend	Area
6	C	Rudolph Hanson	Freeborn			
7	C	Ernest J. Anderson	Faribault			
8	C	Val Imm	Blue Earth			
9	C	Chris L. Erickson	Martin-Watonwan			
10	C	W. J. Franz	Cottonwood-Jackson	N	Amend	Area
11	C*	John L. Olson	Nobles-Rock			
12	C	Joseph Vadheim	Lincoln-Murray-Pipestone			
13	C	J. A. Josefson	Lyon-Yellow Medicine			
14	C	John M. Zwach	Brown-Redwood	N	Amend	Area
15	C	Franklin P. Kroehler	Nicollet-Sibley	N	Amend	Area
16	C	Harold S. Nelson	Steele-Waseca	U	Conv.	Area
17	L*	Michael E. McGuire	Le Sueur			
18	C*	A. O. Sundet	Rice			
19	C	Grover C. George	Goodhue	N	Amend	Area
20	L*	Paul A. Thuet	Dakota	Y	Conv.	Pop.
21	C	John A. Metcalf	Carver-Scott			
22	C*	Harold R. Popp	McLeod	Y	Conv.	Area
23	C*	Leo J. Lauerman	Renville			
24	C	Fay George Child	Chippewa-Lac Qui Parle	N	Amend	U
25	C	Harry L. Wahlstrand	Kandiyohi-Swift			
26	C	Stanley W. Holmquist	Meeker			

SENATORS, continued

(2)

<u>Dist.</u>	<u>Cau.</u>	<u>Name of Senator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>P.D.</u>	<u>Con.R.</u>	<u>Resp.</u>
27	C	Thos. P. Welch	Wright			
28	L	Harold Kalina	Hennepin	Y	Conv.	Pop.
29	L	Donald Fraser	Hennepin	Y	Conv.	Pop.
30	C	Donald O. Wright	Hennepin	Q	Amend	Pop.Q
31	L*	Jack Davies	Hennepin	Y	Conv.	Pop.
32	L*	Herman J. Kording	Hennepin	Y	Conv.	Pop.
33	C	Chas. W. Root	Hennepin			
34	C	Daniel S. Feidt	Hennepin			
35	C*	H. P. Goodin	Hennepin	Y	Conv.	Area
36	C*	Alf Bergerud	Hennepin	Y	Conv.	Pop.
37	L	Harold W. Schultz	Ramsey			
38	L*	Edward G. Novak	Ramsey	Y	Conv.	Pop.
39	L*	Karl F. Grittner	Ramsey	Y	Conv.	Pop.
40	C	Harold J. O'Loughlin	Ramsey	N	Amend.	Pop.
41	C	Leslie E. Westin	Ramsey	Y	Conv.	Area
42	C*	Claude H. Allen	Ramsey	Q	Amend.	Q
43	L	Raphael Salmore	Washington	Y	Conv.	Pop.
44	L	Ralph W. Johnson	Anoka-Isanti	Y	Conv.	Area
45	C	John L. Richardson	Benton-Sherburne-Stearns	Y	Conv.	Area
46	C	Henry M. Harren	Stearns			
47	C	Clifford Lofvegren	Douglas-Pope			
48	L*	C. J. Benson	Big Stone-Grant-Stevens-Traverse			
49	C*	W. B. Dosland	Clay-Wilkin	Y	Conv.	Area
50	C*	Cliff Uckelberg	Otter Tail	Y	Amend.	Area
51	L	Wm. C. F. Heuer	Todd-Wadena	Y	Amend.	Area
52	L*	V. Shipka	Cass-Itasca	Y	Conv.	Area
53	C	Gordon Rosenmeier	Crow Wing-Morrison	N	Amend	Area
54	L	Norman W. Hanson	Aitkin-Carlton	Y	Conv.	U
55	C	C. C. Mitchell	Kanabec-Mille Lacs-Sherburne			
56	L	C. Elmer Johnson	Chisago-Pine	Y	Amend	Area
57	C	Gordon H. Butler	Cook-Lake-St. Louis	Y	Amend	Area
58	L*	Richard E. Ferrario	St. Louis	Y	Conv.	Pop.
59	L	Homer M. Carr	St. Louis	YQ	Amend.	Area
60	L	Elmer Peterson	St. Louis	Y		
61	L	Thomas D. Vukelich	St. Louis	Y		
62	C	John H. McKee	Beltrami-Koochiching-Lake o'Wood	N	Amend	Area
63	L	Norman J. Walz	Becker-Hubbard			
64	C	Norman Larson	Mahnomen-Norman			
65	L	Roy E. Wiseth	Clearwater-Pennington-Red Lake			
66	L	Louis A. Murray	Polk			
67	C	Donald Sinclair	Kittson-Marshall-Roseau			

PLANS TO DATE FOR LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER

May 19, 1958

Carbon copy to:

Office

✓ M. Mantis (Legis)

L. Newstrom (Editr)

A. Green (CO)

W. C. H. (Pub)

PURPOSE

To reach unit members (aim at level of new unit member)

To provide information, arouse interest and get action on state legislation

HOW OFTEN?

8 to 10 issues. Sample copy, main purpose of which is to stimulate interest and get subscriptions, will go out as enclosure in Sept.-October Voter.

Jan 2, January 16, January 30, and every other Friday will be deadline dates for news to reach editor. Come to think of it deadline for first issue should probably be Dec. 16, and would reach members right after Christmas. This probably still is to be worked out. This will probably make 9 issues. The last issue will be a Legislative Report, to be probably in an enlarged issue of the Voter, or an extra issue of Voter, whichever is possible and best.

SIZE OF ISSUES?

Maximum size would be 4 pages on 2 sides of 2 pieces of paper, can be less, not more.

SUBJECT MATTER INCLUDED

State Program and Continuing Responsibilities, including Constitutional Amendments if connected with our program.

Issues related to proper functioning of legislature, such as ethical practices etc.

Articles on lobbying (how, why), functioning of legislature, hazards still has to overcome, list of legislators elected, with caucus, district, address, stands on issues etc. Subject matter would hit high spots, and would encourage buying of more complete booklets on subject from League office.

MECHANICS

Copy gotten by lobbyists to Editor (Luella Newstrom) by Friday every other week starting January 2nd (if not before). Prefer it in written form, but if time is important factor, Luella will take short hand over the phone if the person dictating has written down and reads what she is dictating.

Luella will edit over the weekend, and will get to State Office (one copy) and to Mary Mantis (carbon copy) the typed Legislative Bulletin by Monday after the Friday. Mary Mantis and office will check material before stencilling.

Office will make stencils on Monday. SOS will run stencils Monday night or Tuesday. Volunteers (?) will assemble, staple, fold, stuff envelopes on Tuesday or Wednesday, and mail out first class.

Previous to this, volunteers can make 10 sets of envelopes addressed to our subscribers, our LL Presidents, our DPMailings, State Board, National, and envelopes can be stamped.

COST? \$1.00 subscription.

MISCELLANEOUS DETAILS

Subscribed
to for LW
as well as
office.

Subscribers will be encouraged to save all copies, because the complete set will form a legislative report. The last issue, which is a Minnesota Voter will be more a conclusion, a voting record, than a resume of all that happened. We should remember that the League members, other than those who subscribe, will see only the July-August 1958 Voter (with article on lobbying etc.) and the May 1959 Voter. It is suggested we buy punched paper, we have a special letter head (of. to President's Letter). That fillers be ready for use whenever needed. Some symbol for "Time for Action" be always used. That historical resume of bills as introduced be included. That LegJournals be sub-

December 17, 1958

Dear Luella and Mary Mantis,

Today I started working on Capitol Letter. Attached is my suggestion for listing Legislators and their record. Ignore the actual names and stands, these are imaginary. Tomorrow, I will have real records to work from. But you can advise me whether you like the wording, format.

Roberta and I thought we would run these 4 pages on one side of #16 paper, and it doesn't necessarily have to match in color the rest of the Newsletter. Could be white. The map*** will be printed by Hopf and Hopf, and will cost 2¢, will have regular legislative map on one side, and map with population figures, for use of reapportionment people, on other side. Do you like that? I think it would be very useful. Then whatever else you write, Luella, could be on two sides of one piece of #20 paper, with Capitol Letter head at the top. Or, if you wish, two sides of two pieces of paper. This first mailing is going to be a real ~~these~~ money's worth.

4 stencils, legislators	@ 2¢	- 8¢
1 map	@ 2¢	- 2¢
2 stencils, rest of CL	@ 2¢	- 4¢
Envelope	@ 1/2¢	- 1/2¢
Stamp	@ 4¢	- 4¢
		<u>18 1/2¢</u>

or if get permit rate, less, are investigating

Stuffing cost not figured — *was letterhead, either*

Other 9 issues should cost 12¢ per 1.08

Total 1.26 1/2¢

We have overfigured perhaps on cost per page, because it is cheaper to use 2 sides of one sheet. But we have underfigured by not counting cost of stuffing etc. We have not figured yet on postage, so may be cheaper on mailings that are not in a hurry.

But anyway you look at it, they are getting more than a \$1. worth for a dollar. That is what Board voted, however, when it undertook this project. It would be good, tho, if we could keep it as close to \$1 in cost as possible, so we could do this every legislative year.

correction: 538

530/subscriptions, I think Roberta said, to date.

*** Luella, last time I talked to you about maps, I suggested the pink maps left over from Pink Lady, but I checked and we have only 300 plus left, so this is our next suggestion. I think the price is very reasonable, and I think the reapportionment map giving population figures would be swell for all subscribers to have, don't you?

I did not include any Caucus on this list, because I hate to print something that may have to be changed later. And if we guess at the caucus, before it actually takes place, we may have some mistakes. I should think in the next issue, you could list alphabetically all those that voted for C speaker, say all rest are liberals, or vice versa. Each time we list a vote after that, we will indicate caucus and district of that person..

John

Public Relations

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

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

Federal 8-8791

July 22, 1958

Dear Editor:

Enclosed is a Questionnaire which the League of Women Voters of Minnesota is using to gather information about all the candidates who are running for the State Legislature this fall, and the covering letter which accompanies the Questionnaire.

We have in mind sending the answers to the questions from the candidates in your legislative district to you, as Editor of the newspaper in your county with the largest circulation. We plan to get this to you about August 15th. We hope you will want to print the information, since we feel it is a helpful, non partisan service to the voters.

If you have any comments or helpful suggestions for us, we would be glad to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Harold Anderson

Mrs. O. H. Anderson
President



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

Oct 31, 1958

RESULTS OF CANDIDATES QUESTIONNAIRES

Questionnaires were sent to all legislative candidates.

Replies received: 66 senatorial candidates from 44 districts

" " : 112 house candidates from 43 districts

RESULTS: Candidates for House of Representatives

Sales tax

- 56 oppose
- 8 favor without qualifying statement
- 48 evaded direct answer
 - suggested other solutions to the tax problem
 - avored sales tax as a last resort
 - would study the tax problem
 - no answer

Reapportionment

- 66 area and population compromise
 - 35 population only preference
 - 3 undecided
 - 8 no answer
- several felt compromise would be necessary to get solution)

Registration of lobbyists

- 93 favor
- 3 present system
- 9 undecided
- 7 no answer

Party designation

- 79 favor
- 17 present system
- 10 undecided
- 6 no answer

Constitutional convention

- 59 favor
 - 32 favor amendment process
 - 14 undecided
 - 7 no answer
- correction 7 no answer (seven 7)

Sois Guthrie

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

1958 Legislative Candidates Questionnaire

NAME AGE
ADDRESS COUNTY
HOUSE or SENATE DISTRICT

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

A. Education

B. Occupation

C. What particular training and experience have you had that would qualify you for this office?

D. With what group do you intend to caucus in the legislature?

Conservative _____. Liberal _____. Undecided _____.

CANDIDATES STAND ON ISSUES

Please indicate whether you support, oppose or are undecided on any of the following items, and add comments if you wish.

1. The Legislative Research Committee staff estimated that to maintain the current level of state services in the coming biennium, \$72 million additional new revenue will be needed.

a. Which of the following suggestions do you feel is best to balance our budget?

Decrease services _____. Enact a sales tax _____. Increase other taxes _____.
If so, which _____.

b. If you favor a sales tax should it be an additional tax or replace part of our present tax revenue as well?

Additional _____. Replace other tax revenue _____. If so, which _____.

CANDIDATES STAND ON ISSUES

Please indicate whether you support, oppose or are undecided on any of the following items, and add comments if you wish.

2. The State Constitution states that legislative reapportionment shall take place every ten years. Do you favor reapportionment by population only or do you favor a constitutional amendment providing for some compromise in favor of the less populated areas?

Population only _____. Area & Population Compromise _____. Undecided _____.

3. There has been concern recently with ethics in government as is demonstrated by the appointment of the Governor's Committee on Ethics. In light of this, do you favor registration of lobbyists as a first step toward more ethical government?

Present system _____. Registration of lobbyists _____. Undecided _____.

4. Do you feel the present system of organizing the legislature along Conservative and Liberal lines instead of Republican and Democratic-Farmer-Labor lines is satisfactory or do you favor party designation for legislators?

Present system _____. Party designation _____. Undecided _____.

5. State constitutions are living documents which must be changed as times and situations change. The amendments to our constitution prove this. Do you feel the present amendment process is adequate or do you favor calling a constitutional convention for the purpose of revision?

Amendment process _____. Constitutional Convention _____. Undecided _____.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA
15th and Washington Avenues S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minnesota FE 8-8791

M
E
M
O
DATE: November 20, 1958

TO: Mary Mantis

FROM: Grace

SUBJECT: 90 Days of Lawmaking etcccc.

Mr. Mueller, of Department of Education of Minnesota, CA23013, Ext. 2463, called to tell me that he was planning a School for Freshman Legislators, as he did two years ago, to be held probably the 2nd week in Jan. He requested 125 free copies of 90 Days, to use as a text. I asked DA, she said yes. I have sent Mr. Mueller that message. I requested that if any of his sessions were open, League members would like to attend. He said no doubt that could be done, he would sound out the legislators helping him plan this. Mr. Leahy will speak 2 afternoons, and Mr. Naftalin 1 afternoon on executive branch. We could sit in gallery probably, as sessions would be in House. It occurred to me afterwards, that we might plan our school for observers one of those days in the morning, then go to his school in the afternoon, and even (since we are doing him a favor) he might do us one by letting us use some room over there he knows of, where our school can meet and not get in the legislators' hair.

He will call me again, what do you think of this last idea?

JAN 7 1959

ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR NEW MEMBERS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1959 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1959 -- House Orientation Session

Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session, in House Chamber

Rules of the House

Parliamentary Procedure of the House

Questions and Answers

By George H. Leahy, Chief Clerk of the House

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1959 -- House Orientation Session

Preceding or following Governor's Budget Message, in House Chamber
(Time to be announced)

Drafting and Processing of Bills

Questions and Answers

By George H. Leahy, Chief Clerk of the House
Joseph Bright, Revisor of Statutes

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1959 -- House Orientation Session

Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session, in House Chamber

Functions, Organization, and Operation

of State Government

By Arthur Naftalin, Commissioner of Administration

MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 1959 --

Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session
(Assemble just outside House Chamber)

Visits to Executive and Administrative Offices of:

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

VISITS TO STATE DEPARTMENTS

(Visitation groups will assemble just outside House Chamber)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1959 --

(9:45 a.m.) Adjutant General, Military Affairs --

Major General Joseph E. Nelson, Room 10, Capitol

(11:00 a.m.) Administration --

Arthur Naftalin, Commissioner, Room 120, Capitol

(Afternoon) Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

Agriculture --

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1959 --

(9:45 a.m.) Conservation --

Dr. George A. Selke, Commissioner, Room 356,
State Office Building

(11:00 a.m.) Education --

Dr. Dean M. Schweickhard, Commissioner, Room 301,
State Office Building

(Afternoon) Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

Public Welfare --

Morris Hursh, Commissioner, State Office Bldg. Annex
117 University Avenue

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1959 --

(9:15 a.m.) University of Minnesota -- Minneapolis Campus

Dr. James L. Merrill, President

(Afternoon) Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

University of Minnesota -- St. Paul Campus

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1959 --

(9:45 a.m.) Business Development --

James W. Clark, Commissioner, Room 213,
State Office Building

(11:00 a.m.) Civil Service --

John W. Jackson, Director, Room 122,
State Office Building

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 1959 --

(Afternoon) Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

Highway --

L. P. Zimmerman, Commissioner, Fourth Floor,
State Highway Building

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1959 --

(Afternoon) Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

Employment Security --

Frank T. Starkey, Commissioner, 369 Cedar Street,
St. Paul

Taxation --

Joseph Robertson, Commissioner, 156 E. Sixth Street,
St. Paul

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1959 --

(Afternoon) Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

Veterans Affairs --

Lylo Kinvig, Commissioner, Veterans Service Building

M M.

February 6, 1959

Mr. Bradley Morrison
Minneapolis Star & Tribune
5th and Portland
Minneapolis 15, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Morrison, we feel moved to write the following:

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota shares the views on party designation for legislators expressed in your editorial. "Irresponsible System" was an excellent heading for this editorial. The League's principal objection to the nonpartisan system is that it encourages a lack of responsibility for legislation that benefits the state as a whole. The present legislator is only responsible to his conscience and his constituents and without party guidance or loyalty, the legislator is more readily swayed by special pressures rather than taking the broad view of what is best for the state.

Since our so-called "nonpartisan" legislature actually operates under the two-party system of liberal and conservative blocs we have all the evils of the party system without the advantage of responsibility under party label.

MRS. HOMER MANTIS,
Legislative Chairman
League of Women Voters of Minnesota

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA
15th and Washington Avenues S. E., Minneapolis 14, Minnesota FE 8-8791

M
E
M
O

DATE: February 19, 1959
TO: GROUP GROPINGS - DA.&MM
FROM: Grace
SUBJECT: Legislative Work

I was moved by one thing Arthur Naftalin said yesterday..."The LWV is the only organization interested in government as a whole....I don't belittle organizations that come here to ask for laws in their special fields, they have a perfect right to do so., but No one except the League works for improvement of government for the benefit of all groups."

If the League could take this as a cue: go to all organizations such as the Bar, the Architects, the Medical Society, the MEA, the Insurance group, the school people.. and say, "Continue your work for laws of benefit to you as lawyers, insurance men, etc. but why not also work with us on laws of benefit to all?" Maybe 1 member of that group, of the bar, for example, might speak as a pair with 1 League member to a luncheon meeting of that group. If we did this sort of thing all next year (The Leg.Chm.

on the State Board and in all LL), then in 1961 we will have collected a list of many organizations, or names of members in these organizations, that will work with us for our state items, which hopefully, will be of statewide benefit. (Irish reorganization of government would be one of our items). As preparation and education, the Legislative Chairman on the State Board could initiate and oversee visiting by Leagues of all Leg. Interim and Governor's Committees. The 100 Observers and 100 Leg. Day Attendees would be our workers on this. We could start by gathering from our Leg. friends a list of all organizations that lobby.

Possibly the above might have TV, or radio, or taping possibilities.

Anyone else a brainstorm????

MAR 31 1959

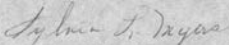
306 Leicester Avenue
Duluth 5, Minnesota
March 29, 1959

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

Mesdames:

We are enclosing the two letters we received from our two of our
Senators. We thought you would be interested.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Donald H. Myers
League of Women Voters of Duluth

May Mantle

March 10, 1959

HOLD FOR SUNDAY PAPER

Letter to the Editor
Mpls. Star and Tribune
Minneapolis, Minnesota

What makes a reapportionment amendment good? The League of Women Voters of Minnesota offers a guide to the thicket of reapportionment plans submitted to the Legislature so far this session.

Put aside for the moment (if you can) any consideration of politics, or likelihood of appeal to rural and city dwellers, or claims of either Senate or House to an "area factor." There are still several basic qualities which a fair and workable reapportionment amendment should have. Here is what to look for:

1. Does it guarantee true population apportionment in the body which goes on this basis?
2. Is it specific about any "area factor" in the other body so that the voter can tell what is involved?
3. Does it have enforcement provisions which will insure future apportionment by giving the power to some body other than the Legislature if it fails to act?
4. Is it flexible enough to provide for future and unforeseen population shifts?
5. Does it restrain from increasing the size of our already too large legislature?

The "County Representation plan" (H.F. 947 and S.F. 614) as it came out of the House Committee measures up to these criteria and has the unqualified support of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

All other amendments introduced this session lack, in one way or another, these basic qualities, all of which are essential to any proposed change in Minnesota Constitutional provisions for Reapportionment. The people of Minnesota will have to vote on any reapportionment amendment. They deserve, at the very least, an amendment which measures up to these five standards.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. O. H. Anderson, President
League of Women Voters of Minnesota

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington Aves.S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
April 9, 1959 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mrs. Walter Angrist
Greenwood 3-9210

REAPPORTIONMENT: WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT

"Reapportionment: What-It's All About" is the title of the winning entry in the Essay Contest sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The first prize, a 30-volume set of the Encyclopedia Americana, new 1957 edition, goes to Sharon Looy of Marshall, Minnesota. Sharon in her essay discusses the present laws regarding the apportioning of the legislature and the increase in population which accounts for most of the inequalities in representation. She points out some of the problems which result in a government that is no longer truly representative.

Second place winner is Eileen Marie McDonald, 7200 Lakeland Ave. No., Minneapolis,, and the third winner is Dolores Prairie of Marshall, Minnesota. In addition, because of the excellence of the essays, the three judges named three more students for honorable mention: Nancy Conlee, 7000 Cedar Lake Road, St. Louis Park, Minnesota; Robert Tesch, 3006 Rice Street, St. Paul, Minnesota; and Theodore M. P. Lee, Box 98, RR. 1, Red Wing, Minnesota. The first three winners will come to St. Paul for a day at the state capitol to watch their legislature in action.

The title of the contest was "How is Representative Government Assured by our State Constitution?" The League of Women Voters has sponsored this contest for the past three years to encourage high school students to learn more about their state constitution and how their government operates.

The three judges were Miss Miriam Alburn, editorial page, Minneapolis Star and Tribune, Mrs. William Graham, Jr., member of the League of Women Voters of Bloomington, who lobbies for the League at the state legislature, and Mr. Scott Johnston, political science department, Hamline University, St. Paul.

League Invited to attend in House
JAN 7 1959 Gallery

ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR NEW MEMBERS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1959 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1959 -- House Orientation Session

Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session, in House Chamber

Rules of the House

Parliamentary Procedure of the House

Questions and Answers

By George H. Leahy, Chief Clerk of the House

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1959 -- House Orientation Session

Preceding or following Governor's Budget Message, in House Chamber
(Time to be announced)

Drafting and Processing of Bills

Questions and Answers

By George H. Leahy, Chief Clerk of the House
Joseph Bright, Revisor of Statutes

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1959 -- House Orientation Session

Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session, in House Chamber

Functions, Organization, and Operation

of State Government

By Arthur Naftalin, Commissioner of Administration

MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 1959 --

Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session
(Assemble just outside House Chamber)

Visits to Executive and Administrative 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 Bjernson (Room 124)

VISITS TO STATE DEPARTMENTS

(Visitation groups will assemble just outside House Chamber)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1959 --

(9:45 a.m.) Adjutant General, Military Affairs --

Major General Joseph E. Nelson, Room 10, Capitol

(11:00 a.m.) Administration --

Arthur Naftalin, Commissioner, Room 120, Capitol

(Afternoon) Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

Agriculture --

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1959 --

(9:45 a.m.) Conservation --

Dr. George A. Selke, Commissioner, Room 356,
State Office Building

(11:00 a.m.) Education --

Dr. Dean M. Schweickhard, Commissioner, Room 301,
State Office Building

(Afternoon) Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

Public Welfare --

Morris Hursh, Commissioner, State Office Bldg. Annex
117 University Avenue

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1959 --

(9:15 a.m.) University of Minnesota -- Minneapolis Campus

Dr. James L. Morrill, President

(Afternoon) Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

University of Minnesota -- St. Paul Campus

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1959 --

(9:45 a.m.) Business Development --

James W. Clark, Commissioner, Room 213,
State Office Building

(11:00 a.m.) Civil Service --

John W. Jackson, Director, Room 122,
State Office Building

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 1959 --

(Afternoon) Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

Highway --

L. F. Zimmerman, Commissioner, Fourth Floor,
State Highway Building

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1959 --

(Afternoon) Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

Employment Security --

Frank T. Starkey, Commissioner, 369 Cedar Street,
St. Paul

Taxation --

Joseph Robertson, Commissioner, 156 E. Sixth Street,
St. Paul

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1959 --

(Afternoon) Immediately following 2 p.m. House Session

Veterans Affairs --

Lylo Kinvig, Commissioner, Veterans Service Building

STANLEY W. HOLMQUIST
SENATOR 26TH DISTRICT
GROVE CITY, MINNESOTA

VICE-CHAIRMAN
EDUCATION COMMITTEE



State of Minnesota
SENATE

COMMITTEES
AGRICULTURE
LABOR
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
TAXES AND TAX LAWS

March 18, 1959

Mrs. Homer T. Mantis
2352 Buford Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Mantis:

I read the editorial that you left on my desk.

The last paragraph was certainly most interesting and very much to the point. Thank you for calling it to my attention.

Sincerely yours,

S. W. Holmquist
SENATOR STANLEY W. HOLMQUIST

SWH:ms
enc.

K O O M President
May Meets
3/21/59

Party Designation for Legislators

Good Morning. Today's guest is Representative Sally Luther, 30th District, Hennepin County. This is her fifth session in the Legislature. She is the only woman legislator, and a member of the League of Women Voters.

1. Mrs. Luther (Sally) before we discuss our Legislative Program, our listeners would be interested to know why we do not have more women in our State Legislature.
2. In recent weeks the League has discussed Constitutional Convention, Election Laws and Reapportionment. Today I would like to talk with you about Party Designation for Legislators.
3. Would you like to tell us how we became a non-partisan legislature?
4. You are the chief author of H. F. 61, a bill dealing with party designation. What are the provisions of this bill?
5. Twice this session in the House Elections Committee the Party Designation bill was recommended to pass. What happened during the last debate on the floor of the house?
6. Why the Judiciary Committee?
7. Are some legislators really afraid to become affiliated with the Republican or DFL party?
8. Who are the opponents of this bill?
9. The League is still hopeful of having this bill sent out of the committee and onto the floor of the House for debate once again. What are the chances for its passage?
10. Suppose that party designation did pass the House. What are its prospects in the Senate?
11. During the past three sessions the League has supported and lobbied for Party Designation. Despite previous efforts, our progress this session has been slight. Don't you agree?
12. The Minnesota Poll surveyed by the Minneapolis Star and Tribune stated that 69% of the citizens did not want Party Designation for Legislators. Would you care to comment on this poll?
13. So far as this issue is concerned, where do you think that the League should concentrate its future efforts?

WCCO TELEVISION

50 SOUTH NINTH STREET • MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINNESOTA

L NEWS
EDITORIAL

THIS IS A TRANSCRIPT OF AN EDITORIAL PRESENTED ON WCCO-TV NEWS

4/4/59

In the painfully slow process of lawmaking, no more intelligent and unselfish assistance is available to the state legislature than that of the League of Women Voters.



Partially Scanned Material

The remainder of this page/item has not been digitized due to copyright considerations. The original can be viewed at the Minnesota Historical Society's Gale Family Library in Saint Paul, Minnesota. For more information, visit www.mnhs.org/library/.

Washington County

DEMOCRATIC FARMER-LABOR

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

APR 24 1958

April 20, 1958

Mrs. C. Raymond Humphries
Lakeland, Minnesota

Dear Marge:

Enclosed is a copy of a resolution which was unanimously approved
at our DFL County Convention in Stillwater April 19th.

I would greatly appreciate it if you would forward this to the proper
person in the league.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Phyllis

Phyllis K. Williams
Retiring chairwoman

*To Grace Wilson
4-23-58
R.H.*

APR 24 1958

RESOLVED, That the Washington county Democratic Farmer-Labor Convention of 1958 commend the League of Women Voters for their consistant efforts on behalf of Party Designation, Reapportionment of the State Legislature and Revision of the State Constitution.

May 14, 1958

Mrs. Ernest Williams
South 4th Street and Highway 12
Stillwater
Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Williams:

Mrs. Humphries forwarded to me the resolution passed at the Washington County DFL Convention commending the League for its efforts on behalf of Party Designation, Reapportionment and Constitutional Revision.

We appreciate the resolution very much. Without the support of party members there could not have been the progress that has been made in these areas I am sure.

We will work with even greater enthusiasm, however, knowing of your approval of our efforts. Thank you again.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Homer Mantis
Legislative Chairman

HM/p

Office

Leg. - V R.

F2D4B15

August 11, 1957

To the Editors:
St Paul Dispatch
St. Paul Pioneer Press

Gentlemen:

Please accept our congratulations for a fine job of reporting the 1957 session of the state Legislature. Your factual, yet vivid, accounts of the deliberations at the Capitol helped even our many out-state members feel a part of the vital legislative process. Thank You

JA

Mrs. C. H. Anderson
President

Boile

leg - Wentz

leg - PIR - Argent

return 8 = F2 D48 15

August 11, 1957

To the Editors:
Minneapolis Star and Minneapolis Tribune
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Gentlemen:

Please accept our belated but sincere congratulations for your superb coverage of the 1957 session of the state Legislature. Your brilliant reporting made it possible for our many out-state members to get the color and excitement of the session, while your accurate accounts were giving them the facts.

Mrs. C. H. Anderson
President

DA

May 14, 1958

Mr. John McDonald
Minneapolis Tribune
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mr. McDonald:

Many many thanks for the copies of your ethics in government articles. You may be assured that we will make good use of them. We wish that newspaper readers all over Minnesota could have had the same opportunity to see these articles that Tribune readers had. Thank you again.

Very truly yours,

HM/p

Mrs. Homer Mantis
Legislative Chairman

May 1, 1959

TO THE EDITOR:
Minneapolis Tribune
Minneapolis, Minnesota

The time and effort spent on reapportionment by our legislature during the regular session was most encouraging. Because the Senate bills came out so late, and because of wide differences in Senate and House solutions, the short conference committee proved insufficient for negotiation.

In the hope that the special session will provide opportunity for more thoughtful consideration of this problem the League of Women Voters would like to point out the following:

The constitutional amendment passed by the House is carefully drawn, provides a fair and flexible area factor in one house, guarantees population in the other, and includes excellent enforcement provisions. We are sure voters would accept such a fair compromise.

The constitutional amendment passed by the Senate is less carefully drawn, contains provisions which were not clear even to many senators. We feel this amendment would not gain voter approval because the Senate would never have to redistrict again, because population reapportionment is not guaranteed in the House and the enforcement could prove ineffective.

The statutory measure passed in different versions by both houses, popularly referred to as the Bergerud bill, is now less satisfactory than when its authors introduced it. Although providing welcome relief to underrepresented metropolitan areas, there are serious deviations outstate and the Senate version does not adequately redistrict Hennepin County.

The House version can be criticized chiefly for adding 4 House members, although most of the House changes were made so that representatives would not have to run at large in 3 counties.

The Senate, as was to be expected, added 2 Senators to bring that body to its present size, both in the rural areas. Unfortunately, in so doing, the principle of equal districts was violated. For example, in one group of rearranged counties where districts had varied from 32,000 to 46,000, deviations are now from 27,000 to 57,000. (In addition to which, this last district includes 3 extremely large counties.) In another place, 2 districts of almost ideal population (about 48,000) were changed to 3 of 29,000, 32,000 and 35,000 populations.

In Minneapolis, the House version equalizes the districts within a few thousands of each other. The Senate version leaves districts that vary from under 35,000 to over 70,000

In suburban Hennepin, the north part, which has approximately half the population of the South part, has only 25% of the total representation in the Senate bill. Equal rearrangement of these districts was achieved in the House.

CC: DA, Office, EKane, A.Green, M.Mantis,

In view of the fact that the statute would not go into effect until 1963, and would remain in effect until after 1970, it is doubly important that inequalities be rectified. We realize that preserving districts for incumbent legislators is done with an understandable desire to see a valued member return. However, we trust the conferees will weigh these personal loyalties against the right of every citizen to equitable representation, and choose the greater justice.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

The next time the League sends me to listen to Mr. Duxbury please send two strong handed League members to hold up my head. He delivered one of the most insidious attacks against an organization that I have ever heard. His entire speech was delivered directly against the League without once mentioning it by name.

He started his speech by saying how humble he felt in the presence of all the dignitaries of Minn. government. He referred to Ray Dunn as one of the greatest statesmen Minnesota has ever had. Then he paid tribute to Mr. Parks and Sen. O'Loughlin for authoring the bill or was it a resolution to honor the constitution. He said in all his years in the legislature it was the first time he had heard anything but criticism and vilification of our constitution. During the last few years insidious pamphlets have been distributed throughout the entire state that poked fun at and belittled our constitution. What a shame! and all this happening in a state where the income has risen from ----- to ----- in a hundred years. Astute that is now spending ----- on a highway program, etc. Then he quoted directly from "Yes, Minnesota Has A Constitution". Each quotation he followed with a eulogy of our Minnesota, and asked how could this be in a state as great as ours. All these is progress in a state with a constitution like a skeleton!

He said some people infer that the entire convention was a fraud.

They make much of the fact that the results were a compromise. And what my I ask is wrong with a compromise? We live by compromises every day. The legislature operates by compromise. And the conference committee? They infer that these men were not qualified. He made a study of the lives of these committee members and gave a resume of each. Some were future governors, legislators, etc., but all became prominent men in the state.

They make much of the differences in the two versions, but Prof. Anderson says these differences are minor.

"I feel sorry for these people" let us be kind and say some of them mean right, but lets call their shots whenever they make these accusations.

He ended with the quote in the St. Paul paper.

I waited for him to mention some of the fine things parts of the constitution, but he didn't. His entire speech was against the critics that have been made of it.

Mr. Harry Peterson's speech :

He took his copy of the constitution and said lets take a look at it. Then he read of the Bill of Rights. After each one he referred to famous court cases where these rights were challenged. His reference to the "do-gooders" referred to the fact that if we change the constitution we might end up losing some of these rights or with a constitution that we don't like at all.

The meeting was evidently arranged by Betty Runyon and Agnes ^{Anderson},
an attorney in St. Paul.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ray Dunn and wife
Rep. Peters and wife
Sen. O'Loughlin

Sen. Broehler (he came up from Menomonee for the dinner.) After it was over he came up to me and said, "I really feel sorry for some of you ladies in the League."

Mike Galvin, his wife and his son and his wife. It was evidently a family night out for the Galvin's.

Gordon Forbes

approx. 6- Associate Justices of Supreme Court
Could it be that Mrs. Runyon and Miss. ^{Anderson} had expert advice in planning the whole affair?

What we can do? I really do n't know. We can't deny the booklet which in its very cleverly written way does belittle our constitution.

We can point out that the need for changes is with us, no matter how we draw attention to them. Note that three complete new articles have been offered in the last four (?) years. And the fact that some 50 separate amendments were offered by the legislators themselves last session indicates that changes are needed and that the legislators are now in the process of writing a new constitution by amendments. This they may not realize, but they are.

As for the League- They have for been working for improvements in the state constitution for ten years now. Many changes have been made. The need for the others has been widely recognized.

Motives? The motives of an organization that spends all of its time and resources working for improvements in government speaks for itself.

The whole tenor of the speeches seemed political rather than honorary.

Report of "The People Speak" Conference. Sept. 13, 1967
Special State Issues--- Rep. Clarence Langley, Chairman

This session had a small attendance and I got the impression that special state issues as "us" see them are not of special interest to very many people. Rev. Willard Reeves, from the Minnesota Council of Churches, gave a good case for Constitutional Revision, Reapportionment, and Party Designation. He was the only speaker to receive applause. Everyone seemed quite bored with Mr. Christmann. His assistant attorney to the League of Minnesota Municipalities gave an explanation of the home rule amendment and a plan for its adoption. Mr. Frank Farrel spoke as an individual for reapportionment.

Some organizations sent speakers.

SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS -- Mr. Stelco

The building industry wants the state to adopt a state building code so that final building plans may be presented to one person.

STATE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS -- Mrs. Paulmer

want anti-litter bag legislation with teeth in it.
want the age raised for securing a driver's license.

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR YOUTH -- Mr. Kenneth Bayliss

wants the state to help remove obscene literature from the neighborhood.
The recent Supreme Decision that says there is no place for
Court

obscenity in the constitution, leaves the way open for Minnesota to clean up.

He says the courts should be strict in dealing with cases of vandalism and make the child help pay for destruction.

wants the state to close the taverns at midnight on Saturday.
wants everyone to help get crime off TV.

MINNESOTA EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATION -- Mr. Otto Christmann

Mr. Christmann in his opening remarks told of the scope of his work and seemed to be justifying his job. Speakers were asked to talk only five minutes. He took 20 min.

The substance of some of his remarks are;

"I speak as an individual. I do not represent all employers."

"Legislation is a secondary part of my work." We are not a lobbying outfit. That is not all we do." Then he went on to tell details of his job. All of this had no bearing on the issues of state government. He said he does much work in the field of Workmen's Compensation, works with government agencies to promote industry in Minnesota etc.
Then he went into his usual tirade against labor.

"Labor cannot and should not get all the breaks in the legislature."

One-half of the population of the state is concentrated in the five counties around the twin cities. This makes new problems. The political parties do not recognize this. Labor has for ten years now been seeking reapportionment--- only to give themselves more power. If reapportionment is considered it should not be on a population basis only, but some consideration should be given to area.

On party designation--- "If you and I were leading a labor union and wanted to control the Democratic party, then the first thing we would do is work for party designation." "If we should get it, then we would lose 10 or 15 representatives and 10 or 15 senators."

On constitutional convention---

"The G.I.O. and the League of Women Voters have been working for this for years. There's nothing evil in the present constitution etc., etc."

§ Scuttelbut; Christianson went to several other sections and took up more than his share of time with the same old speech. (Everyone seemed thoroughly disgusted with him.)

REGISTER OF DEEDS -- Carver County

Opposed party designation- he said there is no place for it in elective offices on the county level. Opposes further concentration of power.

PATROLMAN

Asked that blood tests be used in accident cases---liquor is involved in more than 50% of the accidents.

JEWISH COUNCIL -Mabbi

Asked that they not pass laws to prevent the Jewish method of slaughtering livestock. In all communistic countries this was the first piece of discriminating legislation to be passed.

STATE OSTEOPATHS -Dr. Hedin

Wants legislature to give them legal rights to give drugs.

MINNESOTA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES -- Rev. Willard Reeves

Spoke for:

1. Revision of the state constitution-- its a moral issue to obey the constitution - not a political one.
2. Reapportionment-- has confidence the people of Minnesota can reach a solution.
3. Lobby registration act. Its wrong for man to accept money while voting on an issue.
4. Party designation-- Its important that a legislator be responsible and he should be able to stand on a state platform.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

They want local government to solve local problems-this will cut down on special legislation.

MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF COOPERATIVES

Wants dealers to be granted licences to install electric equipment.

LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA MUNICIPALITIES

Explained and asked passage of home rule amendment.

REPUBLICAN LEAGUE

Frank Furber-- He spoke on his behalf for reapportionment. Asked the Republican party to ask the Governor to appoint a citizens committee to work for reapportionment.

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

C

3 copies made for
President

Leg. File

Const. Conv. File

R E S O L U T I O N

MAY 19 1959

WHEREAS: The Constitution of the State of Minnesota was adopted
on October 13, 1957;

AND WHEREAS: It is believed by many individuals and groups that
this constitution is poorly drafted and substantially
outmoded for today;

AND WHEREAS: It is further believed that the general public is
not generally aware of the contents of the present
constitution and its patent short-comings;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Minnesota Junior Chamber
of Commerce consider the foregoing by referral to the State Public
Affairs Committee, or other suitable committee, for study and
possible action in the forthcoming Jaycee year.

Sponsoring Chapter:

Bloomington Jaycees

Adopted by Executive Committee of the
Minnesota Junior Chamber of Commerce
April 11, 1959

To: Public Affairs Committee - Minnesota Junior Chamber of Commerce,
Gentlemen:

The present constitution of the State of Minnesota was adopted on October 13, 1857, more than 100 years ago. Much of its contents have to do with life as it existed then. The ninety day legislative session every two years is an example. We know it is impossible to run the State of Minnesota and make its budget and laws within that time, so we have to resort to such puerile devices as covering the clock. Other examples of ill-conceived provisions in our constitution are:

- a. 7 or 8 pages taken up in description of the trunk highways
- b. Taxation of railroads
- c. Detailed provisions on school funds and taxation
- d. Iron ore tax provisions
- e. Loan provisions for insane asylums
- f. Provisions relating to the rights of private stockholders
- g. Compensation for members of the Armed Forces

Most of these things are a proper matter for legislation but should not be cluttering up such a basic document as a constitution. Taking the federal constitution as a model, such a basic document should concern itself only with the broad powers and duties of branches of the government, public officials, a bill of rights for individuals and matters of that sort. It should not be restricted by detailed provisions on matters of less than constitutional importance.

It is believed that if the general public was aware of the many short-comings of this document they would call for a constitutional convention. Therefore, it is a problem of education, and herein lies the field in which the State Jaycees could do a notable job of far-reaching and lasting importance to our state.

Suggested plan of action

1. Set up a sub-committee consisting of our members who are lawyers, political scientists, legislators, and others who are interested, to make a detailed study of the background of the present constitution, its specific inadequacies for today, and the changes that should be made. Possibly they could consider drafting a model constitution.
2. Contact with other groups that are interested, notably the League of Women Voters (who have much background and material on this matter), both political parties, the State Bar Association, and others.
3. Promotion of this project in the local organizations with suggested literature, posters showing inadequacies with, perhaps, cartooning.
4. Letter writing campaigns to our legislators urging allowance of a constitutional convention. We can only ultimately deal through the legislature to allow such a convention since we do not have, in Minnesota, the machinery of Initiative and Referendum (the power of

June 8, 1959

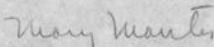
Mr. K. L. Bergstrahl
Director of Personnel
Highway Building
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Bergstrahl,

I want to thank you for all your courtesies and helpfulness to the League of Women Voters during this legislative session, when we depended upon your facilities in the beautiful new Highway Building for meeting places. The pleasant room upstairs, which we were allowed to use several times for workshops and meetings, the convenient corner reserved for us in the cafeteria, so that we could meet and eat were what made the difference between a pleasant and successful series of meetings, and a crowded, frustrating experience.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Homer Mantis
Legislative Chairman