



League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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1965 LEGISLATIVE REPORT

OFFICE

1966 LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

- January - Board committee meets to discuss:
1. Lobbying emphasis
2. Fall workshops
3. Observers program
Start recruiting lobbyists
- Spring - Lobbyists can begin gathering background, checking on other organizations and interim committees
- Summer - Publications Chairman plans printing, mailing, price, etc., of Capitol Letter
President and Public Relations Chairman write other organizations for support for League Program
Begin work with parties on Observers Program
Publicize fall workshops - get hostess Leagues
- September - Start promoting Capitol Letter subscriptions
Start Board updating and make decisions to clarify positions
- November - President writes congratulatory letters to legislators
Look for opportunities for publicity of League legislative activity
- December - Lobbyist orientation
- January 2, - GO! The hardest part is done!
1967

FALL WORKSHOPS

Fall Legislative Workshops were planned and presented by Board Legislative Committee:

Sue Murray (Mrs. L. G.) - Legislative Chairman
Mary Nash (Mrs. Harold) - Public Relations Chairman
Josie Johnson (Mrs. Charles) - State CRs Chairman
Marion Watson (Mrs. Harold) - State Item Chairman - Discrimination
Elsie Colborn (Mrs. Earl) - State Item Chairman - Constitutional Revision

The purpose of the Workshops was to:

1. Build local League enthusiasm for coming session
2. Help Leagues organize to promote interest and effective action within the League
3. Help Leagues work with their communities on action
4. Give information on current CA related item that will be of general interest during the session (Reapportionment)

Program:

1. Introduction by Legislative Chairman
2. "How To" portion given by Nash (working with community) and Johnson (working within League). Group broke into two sections to promote discussion
3. Group assembled for short reports on Role of the League at the Legislature by Watson and Legislative Forecast by Murray
4. Lunch
5. Illustrated Reapportionment talk by Colborn

General evaluation:

I was personally pleased with the interest and enthusiasm shown at every workshop. We tried to establish an informal mood which would stimulate audience participation, and we were successful. Annual reports showed that the local Leagues also felt the workshops had been worthwhile. Call to Action response was excellent, and Capitol Letter subscriptions were higher than ever - this may have been due to the promoting that was done at the workshops.

The chief local League problem seemed to be organizing for responding to Calls to Action. Josie did a competent job of suggesting ways of meeting this problem - but only because she had been Organization Chairman on the Minneapolis Board. Next time it might be good to have Organization Chairman as part of the state committee giving the program. The main points emphasized for working within League were Capitol Letter (use for short legislative updating at unit meetings), Calls to Action, Observers Program and Junior Blue Book as legislative handbook for local Boards.

Mary Nash's seven page community survey was greeted with mixed emotions. Later some of the groaners said it had been an interesting and worthwhile project. Approximately 25 were completed and are in the files.

Marion Watson's speech was so well received that it was mimeographed and sent out with the November mailing to local Leagues for use at unit meetings or in local bulleting.

Els Colborn's reapportionment material was also received very well. Members seemed to be hungry for some up to date information on reapportionment.

The hostess Leagues did a fine job with facilities and lunch, except in St. Louis Park where there was no arrangement for two separate rooms for the "How To" section. The first workshop (at St. Louis Park) was the most poorly presented. Since metropolitan area audiences are more critical and expect higher level of ~~the~~ performance, it may be better to start out of town next time. Outstate Leagues are so grateful that you've driven "all this way" that they put up with a little less sparkle.

Working and traveling with the committee was truly fun, but the workshops were scheduled (by me) too close together. We were just pooped after the fourth one. Timing is difficult in the fall when you have to work around holidays and elections. Next time, have the whole committee give more thought to the dates.

Be sure to ask hostess Leagues to refrain from setting lunch with a head table. State committee should visit with the members - we have so few opportunities for this especially outstate.

Breaking into smaller groups was excellent. Any kind of movement or re-grouping is good at an all day meeting.

Four workshops seemed the best number - no sense traveling all over the state for small groups.

ATTENDANCE AT WORKSHOPS

48 Leagues were represented at the workshops. The 16 who were not: Winona, Worthington, Willmar, Westonka, Virginia, Silver Bay, St. Peter, St. Anthony, Richfield, New Richland, Moorhead, International Falls, Hutchinson, Crookston, Cass Lake and Buffalo.

Local League President
Legislative Chairman
State Program Chairmen

WILL WANT TO ATTEND

LEGISLATIVE
WORKSHOPS

"Member action locally and sophisticated leadership action with administrators and legislators are of equal importance in attaining League legislative goals; it is not an either/or but a both proposition."

This was the opinion expressed by delegates from every state League in the country at the State Board Conference last fall.

We on the state legislative committee have been busy for months laying plans for this legislative session. Now we would like to help local League Boards carry out the other part of a successful legislative program - local member action.

These workshops, being held in four areas of the state in November, will include, in addition to a legislative forecast, help on how to build member participation and how to build community support for League Program. A special feature will be a section on the practical politics of reapportionment.

Reservations are due one week in advance of your Workshop. Send check (made out to the League of Women Voters of your hostess town) to the president of your hostess League. Check should cover the price listed for all who will attend the Workshop from your League. In some cases there will be an extra item for coffee or tip which you may take care of in cash at the time. The agenda for the day with more details on some of the Workshops will appear with the October Board Memo.

Dates, Places, Prices and Leagues attending:

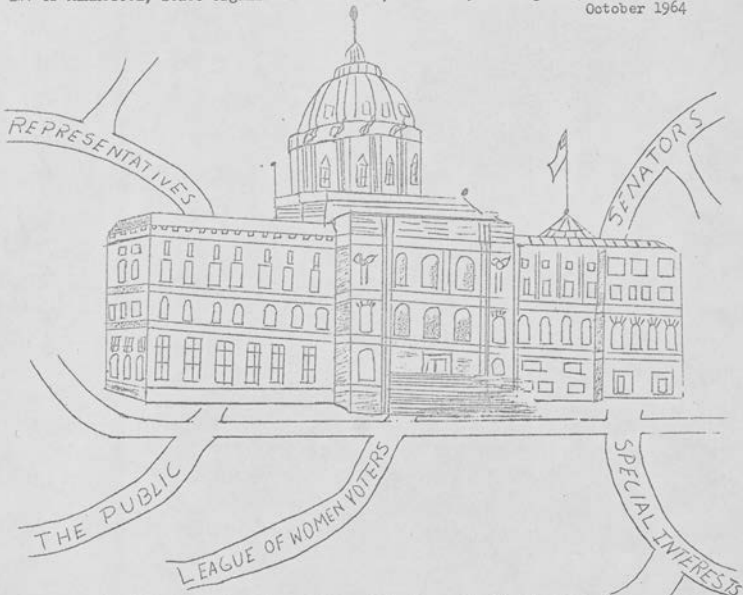
November 5, Thursday, St. Louis Park. Aldersgate Church, 3801 Wooddale. Cost of lunch will be announced in the October Board Memo. Mrs. H. J. Brandwein, President, 3033 Xylon Ave. S., Apt. 14, St. Louis Park. Leagues invited: Buffalo Bloomington, Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Deephaven, Edina, Wayzata, Excelsior, Golden Valley, Minneapolis, Minnetonka, Richfield, Robbinsdale, St. Louis Park, Westonka.

November 10, Tuesday, Brainerd. Brainerd Country Club. \$2.00 for lunch. Mrs. DeWayne Chesley, President, 612 N. 8th Street, Brainerd. Leagues invited: Crookston, Moorhead, Fergus Falls, Battle Lake, Alexandria, International Falls, Chisholm, Duluth, Brainerd, Cass Lake, Bemidji, Virginia, Silver Bay.

November 12, Thursday, White Bear Lake. Place and cost will be announced in the October Board Memo. Mrs. Donald Gipple, President, 24 Duck Pass Road, White Bear Lake. Leagues invited: Red Wing, Anoka, Fridley, St. Cloud, Columbia Heights, West St. Paul, South St. Paul, St. Croix Valley, Shoreview, Arden Hills, Falcon Heights, Mahtomedi, Maplewood, North St. Paul, Roseville, St. Anthony, St. Paul, White Bear Lake.

November 17, Tuesday, Mankato. Place and cost will be announced in the October Board Memo. Mrs. P. Wm. Jones, President, Southview Heights #2, Mankato. Leagues invited: Rochester, Austin, Hutchinson, Willmar, Granite Falls, St. Peter, New Richland, Owatonna, New Ulm, Mankato, Jackson, Worthington, Faribault, Wells, Albert Lea, Winona.

Reservation made and



ALL ROADS LEAD TO THE CAPITOL

But before the legislative session gets under way, all League roads lead to the various area Workshops.

Your PRESIDENT, LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN and STATE PROGRAM CHAIRMEN should attend these LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOPS.

Leaders of the workshops are Mrs. L. C. Murray, legislative chairman; Mrs. Earl Colborn, state item II chairman; Mrs. Charles Johnson, state CR chairman; Mrs. Harold Nash, public relations chairman; Mrs. Harold Watson, state item I chairman.

PROGRAM

9:30	Coffee and registration
10:00	Legislative forecast
	How a program item becomes a bill
	How to stimulate interest in legislative matters among League members
	How to work with the community to promote interest in legislative program
12:30	Lunch
1:15	Practical politics of reapportionment
2:30	Adjourn

Dates, Places, Prices and Leagues attending:

November 5, Thursday, St. Louis Park, Alderagate Church, 3801 Wooddale - just west of Hwy. 100 about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of Hwy. 7.
Cost of lunch - \$1.75. Mrs. H. J. Brandwein, president, 3033 Xylon Ave. S., Apt. 14, St. Louis Park.
Leagues invited: Buffalo, Bloomington, Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Deephaven, Edina, Wayzata, Excelsior, Golden Valley, Minneapolis, Minnetonka, Richfield, Robbinsdale, St. Louis Park, Westonka.

November 10, Tuesday, Brainerd, Brainerd Country Club - Leagues attending see enclosed map.
Cost of lunch - \$2.00. Mrs. DeWayne Chesley, president, 612 N. 8th St., Brainerd.
Leagues invited: Crookston, Moorhead, Fergus Falls, Battle Lake, Alexandria, International Falls, Chisholm, Duluth, Brainerd, Cass Lake, Bemidji, Virginia, Silver Bay.

November 12, Thursday, White Bear Lake, First Lutheran Church, Hwy 61 and County Road F - just south of White Bear.
Cost of lunch - \$1.50. Mrs. Donald Gipple, 24 Duck Pass Rd., White Bear Lake.
Leagues invited: Red Wing, Anoka, Fridley, St. Cloud, Columbia Heights, West St. Paul, South St. Paul, St. Croix Valley, Shoreview, Arden Hills, Falcon Heights, Mahtomedi, Maplewood, North St. Paul, Roseville, St. Anthony, St. Paul, White Bear Lake.

November 17, Tuesday, Mankato, Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1103 N. Broad - about 2 blocks north of Hwys. 22, 14, 60 as you enter town, between 2nd and 4th.
Cost of lunch - \$1.25. Mrs. F. Wm. Jones, president, Southview Heights #2, Mankato.
Leagues invited: Rochester, Austin, Hutchinson, Willmar, Granite Falls, St. Peter, New Richland, Owatonna, New Ulm, Mankato, Jackson, Wells, Worthington, Paribault, Albert Lea, Winona.

RESERVATIONS with check enclosed made out to the LWV of hostess town due one week in advance of Workshop to president of the hostess League.

HOW A PROGRAM ITEM BECOMES A BILL
Legislative Workshop Speech
Mrs. Harold Watson November 1964

"Let the people know make the people care and help the people act."

This paraphrase of the purpose of the League of Women Voters is what our activities are all about. And to League members it seems like a simple and obvious formula to achieve effective action. A Program item is adopted in accordance with League principles, a fine resource piece is produced by a diligent committee, checked and re-checked for accuracy so that it becomes a standard reference work for citizens within and outside the League, discussions proceed through unit meetings, a consensus slowly emerges which the state Board converts into a statement of position which embodies our agreement on principle, and we are all set to work to achieve our goal. The first step is simple enough. We inform our members of this position, "The LWV of Minnesota supports party designation for legislators", for example. We tell the newspapers, we give speeches, we ask questions of candidates for office to reveal their willingness to support our stands. But when we face the legislature itself, we are suddenly confronted with a number of complicating factors.

Long before the session and before the election the state Board must try to conjure up a picture of what the make up of the legislature will be and to ask itself which parts of our Program have a chance of a being accepted. Where shall we concentrate our efforts? Will anyone be introducing a party designation bill? Or shall we write a bill ourselves and try to get sponsors before the session? We did so much work on this issue during the last session. Can we afford to lose that effort? Is the character of the legislature so unchanged that we can see already that such a measure is doomed to fail? Are we beating a dead horse? Are we just alienating legislators by pushing a lost cause when we might concentrate our efforts somewhere else and meet with success? Is it fair to the membership to pick and choose among our positions and not to give all items equal stress? Can we leave out one entirely knowing that many other organizations will be working toward its realization? Can it pass without us -- thus saving the League from going to a legislator with yet another request -- when we have heard from legislators that they feel hounded by the 'League of Lady Meddlers' as one man called us? What will the lively issues be during this session? The decisions are not easy. But right or wrong, it is the responsibility of the state Board to weigh these factors, which are often only straws in the wind, and plan our strategy.

Next, we must consider the setting in which to place our position in order to make it acceptable to the legislature. We know that the legislature is the policy making body of the state. We know, too, that a policy, once adopted, is hard to change, but that things can be accomplished within an old policy. For example, a member of the Interim Commission on Minnesota River Valley Development wanted to propose that portages for canoeists be built around all of the permanent barriers on the Minnesota River. He was advised that the legislature would be in an uproar if someone proposed building portages. But the idea of public access to Minnesota waters is a matter of legislative policy. If he suggested putting a public access above and below each permanent barrier on the river, this would seem reasonable, and as his advisor said, if you have an access above and below a barrier, you've got a portage.

Further, the Board is faced with deciding how well bills introduced at random by various legislators embody our position. This occurred in the last session when a bill was introduced which would have permitted a citizen to vote for president and vice president in Minnesota without having fulfilled the residence requirement to become an eligible voter, if the voter was a qualified voter in the state from which he came. This would have extended the franchise, which we favor, but would have

sanctioned discriminatory practices of which we do not approve. For example, a Negro from Mississippi, disenfranchised there for reasons we would consider illegal in Minnesota, would not have been permitted to vote in Minnesota under this law unless he had been here long enough to be a qualified resident. We decided to support the bill because it would extend the franchise and tried to persuade legislators to remove the undesirable restriction. The bill did not get out of committee during the last session, and thanks to the League, will go into this session with improved language. We may sometimes support a bill when we know we are getting less than the whole loaf. This is another area in which the state Board must weigh the evidence and make the decision.

Finally, we must consider the character of the legislature itself. It has been commented that the League is not an effective lobbying group because we have no money to give candidates, and we cannot support candidates for office which would deliver votes. Our only appeal is to right and reason. And many senior legislators feel that they have all the right and reason already.

What will this session be like? It appears that there will be more conservatives in this legislature than there were in 1963, and both houses were dominated by conservatives in that session. From the conservative caucus in the Senate will be drawn the same powerful interlocking directorate. The Senate Rules Committee has 22 members, all conservatives. It is made up of the chairmen of each of the 23 Senate committees. (Senator Rosenmeier headed two in 1963.) The seven members of the Committee on Committees; Senators Rosenmeier, Zwach, Sinclair, Wright, Imm, Norman Larson and Mitchell turn up in key positions everywhere. They have seniority. And, significantly, they are independent from either political party. The favor of a committee chairman is a tremendous asset in getting a bill passed, and their disfavor is a large obstacle. You have heard it before, and you will hear it again: Most members of the House and most members of the Senate favor party designation, but not Senator Rosenmeier!

The power structure of the House was not so rigid as that of the Senate in 1963, partly because control passed from the liberals to the conservatives in the 1962 election. Since seats were gained by the conservative caucus in this election, the power structure which emerged during the last session will become more solid. Once again, on an issue like party designation, we can expect firm opposition from the top leaders in both houses. This means assignment to unfriendly committees and endless parliamentary maneuvering to prevent a vote on the floor. In any session we must weigh our desire to push a position against the realistic likelihood that it will be shepherded into law by a friendly power structure.

Was T. S. Eliot writing for us when he said:

"Between the idea
And the reality
Between the motion
And the act
Falls the shadow"

CAPITOL LETTER

Putting out each issue of Capitol Letter was a fairly smooth operation after the first issue. Essentials are:

1. A good editor - she usually ends up writing most of the articles. She should first be a good editor and second have some familiarity with legislative matters.
2. A good typist for the stencils or mats.

The Legislative Chairman decides content of the issue,; editor gets it from lobbyists and others and re-writes. Copies are sent to the Legislative Chairman, typist and President. The President checks with the Legislative Chairman; ~~Legislative~~ Legislative Chairman phones changes to typist.

Once again, I feel too much miscellaneous responsibility is being given to the Legislative Chairman. It seems to me that all details of subscriptions, production, mailing and promoting subscriptions should be the Publications Chairman's job. Much of this was left to the staff and, because of inexperience, ultimately came to be an added chore for the Office Management Committee Chairman.

I didn't begin promotion of subscriptions early enough, mostly because I was preoccupied with the workshops and many details of the Observers Program.

Capitol



Letter

a publication of the
League of Women Voters of Minnesota
Vol. IV, No. 2

#1 not available
Editor: Mrs. Nicholas Duff
President: Mrs. William Whiting
February 8, 1965

REAPPORTIONMENT AND THE MINNESOTA CONSTITUTION

The League has reached a consensus on reapportionment. On the basis of reports from local Leagues, the state Board formulated the following statement:

"The League of Women Voters of Minnesota supports the principle of regular and equitable reapportionment. The League favors an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution which would:

1. Leave the primary responsibility for reapportionment with the legislature but would establish definite procedures if the legislature fails to act.
2. Specify the maximum deviation of any district from the ideal (total population divided by number of legislators).
3. Prohibit an increase in legislative size."

The Minnesota Constitution would not rank high on anyone's list of best sellers; however, the provisions relating to reapportionment have been getting the careful scrutiny of Minnesota legislators, the Governor's Commission on Reapportionment, the League of Women Voters and other interested citizens. Before discussing proposed changes, it might be well to review the present provisions. The pertinent sections are Article IV Sections 2, 23, and 24:

"Apportionment of Members. Sec. 2:

The number of members who compose the Senate and House of Representatives shall be prescribed by law, but the representation in the Senate shall never exceed one member for every 5,000 inhabitants, and in the House of Representatives one member for every 2,000 inhabitants. The representation in both houses shall be apportioned equally throughout the different sections of the State in proportion to the population thereof.

"Census Enumeration: Apportionment. Sec. 23:

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

"Senatorial Districts: Term of office of senators and representatives. Sec. 24:

The senators shall be chosen by single districts of convenient contiguous territory at the same time that members of the house of representatives are required to be chosen and in the same manner; and no representative districts shall be divided in the formation of a senate district..."

(continued next page)

Legislators point to the difference in language between Section 2 which says the number of members shall be prescribed by law and Section 23 which states that the legislature shall have the power to prescribe district lines. It is the contention of some legislators that though a change in the size of the legislature would be a law requiring the Governor's signature, a change in district lines can be done by the legislature alone. Legal precedent is not clear. In 1931 Governor Floyd B. Olson vetoed a Congressional redistricting bill and it was upheld by the Supreme Court and resulted in an at-large election. However later the Supreme Court interpreted language in the judicial article relating to judges' pay to mean that the legislature could establish pay scale without the Governor's approval. Conservative legislators, who anticipate a possible veto of their redistricting by the Democratic Governor Rolvaag, plan a court test if there is such a veto.

The Governor's Commission has recommended a Constitutional amendment establishing a procedure for periodic reapportionment. The League will support this amendment. The major provision is an addition to Section 24 establishing

1. Judicial review of legislative action. Within 30 days after the legislature has enacted a redistricting law any qualified voter may petition the state Supreme Court to review the legislature's action. If the Supreme Court determines that the legislature's bill does not comply with constitutional requirements the court shall either change the bill or order the Governor to convene a Citizens' Reapportionment Commission.
2. If the legislature does not redistrict, the Governor shall be required to convene the Citizens' Reapportionment Commission. It shall have 9 members - 3 appointed by each of the major parties and the remaining 3 selected by the

first 6. The Commission shall then draw up a re-districting plan and submit it to the Supreme Court for approval. If the Commission fails to agree, the Supreme Court may institute its own plan or one of several plans suggested by the Commission.

The Governor's Commission also recommended an amendment to Section 2 limiting the legislature to its present size. Other provisions clarify the timing of the election of senators and representatives after a new reapportionment bill is passed. This amendment has not yet been introduced into the legislature. The only amendment that has been introduced is a bill by Senators Mel Hansen, McGuire and Ogdahl, S. F. 151 which would change Section 2 to make apportionment in proportion to the number of votes cast at the last general election instead of in proportion to census population. The League has no position on this amendment.

While the Minnesota legislature was considering methods of complying with the recent Supreme Court decision, it was also seeking to nullify this decision through amendment of the Federal Constitution. (See accompanying article on Senate File One.)

House File 522 with authors Fischer, Iverson, French and Overgaard requests Congress to call a Constitutional Convention for the purpose of adding an article to the Federal Constitution which would provide that nothing in the Constitution should prohibit a bicameral legislature from apportioning one house on factors other than population providing such apportionment was approved by the people of the state. The Federal Constitution provides that Congress is to call a Constitutional Convention on the application of 2/3rds of the states. This procedure has never actually been used.

SENATE RESOLUTION NUMBER ONE

Unaffected by an outside temperature of twenty below zero, the Senate Elections & Reapportionment Committee gave warm approval to a resolution asking Congress to submit an amendment to the states which would permit them to apportion one house of legislatures on other than a strict population basis. The authors were three outstate Senators: Conservatives J. A. Josefson from Minnesota and Stanley Holmquist from Grove City and C. J. Benson, Liberal from Ortonville. The procedures involved would include approval of the amendment by 2/3rds of the members of both houses of Congress, ratification by 3/4ths of the legislatures of the fifty states, and in Minnesota, citizen approval of an amendment changing the basis of apportionment in one house in Minnesota. This whole process would be permissive, not mandatory, on the states.

While no one appeared to speak against this proposal, a previous committee meeting had heard proponents representing the Minnesota Employers Association and the Citizens Legislative Council.

Senator Nicholas Coleman, St. Paul Liberal, commented wryly, that this was the same amendment defeated by the voters in 1960, to which chief author Josefson replied that "this time, everyone will have grown in wisdom." There are chuckles even in committee meetings!

Mrs. O. H. Anderson

GOVERNOR & LT. GOVERNOR AMENDMENT

H. F. 61 providing for joint election of Governor and Lt. Governor has been introduced in the House by Conservative Don Mitchell from Worthington. The bill was referred to the Elections Committee which heard it Wednesday, Feb. 3. The League testified at the request of the chief author. Rep. Mitchell asked the committee to pass the bill and refer it to the Rules committee which could then assess the amendment in light of all other amendments which come through the session choosing those best suited for passage. The committee unanimously passed it with referral to Rules.

S. F. 44, companion bill to the Governor & Lt. Governor H. F. 61 has been introduced by Sen. John Olson from Worthington and author of the same bill in the 1963 session. It has been referred to Judiciary where Sen. Olson has requested an early hearing.

NEW RESIDENT ELECTION LAW

The proposal to allow new residents to vote for President and Vice President before meeting the 6-month residency requirement has picked up strong support plus a bit of confusion as three bills all modeled after the National Commission on Uniform State Laws have been introduced.

Senator Mel Hansen, Minneapolis Conservative and a member of the Senate Elections & Reapportionment Committee, is the chief author. Co-authors are Senators Henry McKnight, Conservative from suburban Hennepin, and Michael McGuire, Liberal representing LeSueur and Scott counties. The bill is essentially the one drafted by the National Commission but has been altered by Senator Hansen to make it conform more nearly to Minnesota absentee ballot procedures. He sought advice from the auditors of Hennepin and Ramsey counties and has their support.

The House companion bill is authored by Rep. Otto Bang, Hennepin County Conservative, George Humphrey, Minneapolis Conservative, Bill Frenzel, suburban Hennepin Conservative, Mrs. Helen McMillan, Mower County Liberal and Duane Rappana, St. Louis County Conservative.

Also in the House, a new resident bill was introduced by Representatives Gary Flakne and Iyall Schwarzkopf, both Minneapolis Conservatives, E. B. Gustafson, Duluth Liberal, Robert Becklin, Conservative representing Chisago and Isanti counties, and F. Gordon Wright, Minneapolis Conservative who is chairman of the Elections Committee.

The differences between all these bills are small and hopefully can be ironed out in committee. Your lobbyist is busy bringing about a meeting of the minds.

Mrs. Michael Richdorf

ELECTION LAWS

Mandatory registration under present law applies to municipalities having a population of 10,000 or more, though other municipalities may also adopt a permanent registration system if they wish.

The 1963 legislature established an Elections Interim Commission. Its study between sessions of the legislature has resulted in the introduction of S. F. 39 and H. F. 173 extending mandatory voter registration to over 50 municipalities in Hennepin, Ramsey, Washington, Anoka and Dakota counties. These bills would require a permanent registration system in any municipality in which 300 or more votes were cast in the last general election and which is situated in Ramsey or Hennepin counties or in a county contiguous to them, providing such county has a population of more than 40,000. Hence, Scott, Wright, Carver and Sherburne counties, although contiguous to Hennepin and Ramsey, are exempt because their populations have not reached 40,000.

On February 22nd, S. F. 39 was reported out of the Senate Elections and Reapportionment Committee with a recommendation for passage. Authors are Senators Mel Hansen, Minneapolis Conservative, Franklin Kroehler, Conservative representing Nicollet and Sibley counties and the committee chairman, and Eugene Knudsen, Liberal representing Swift and Kandiyohi counties.

At the present time the companion bill, H. F. 173 is before the House Elections Committee. Authors are committee chairman F. Gordon Wright, Minneapolis Conservative, Robert Latz and James Adams, Minneapolis Liberals, Robert Christensen and John Tracy Anderson, Ramsey county Conservatives.

PARTY DESIGNATION

The first party designation bill introduced in this session will be heard by the Senate Elections and Reapportionment Committee Tuesday, Febr. 16 at 8 a.m. The bill, S.F. 271, has three Liberal authors, Senators Coleman, St. Paul, Thuet, South St. Paul and Hoium, Anoka County. The League will be among those testifying in support of the bill.

MANDATORY VOTER REGISTRATION COLLIDES WITH HOME RULE

Thursday, Feb. 11, Senator Mel Hansen presented S. F. 39 for consideration by the Senate. In recommending the bill for passage, he emphasized that the need for voter registration was acute in the metropolitan area, where the population is both mobile and increasing rapidly. In the 1963 session a bill to extend mandatory registration on a statewide basis was opposed by outstate legislators who saw no need for it in the more stable "home towns" of rural Minnesota. Senator Hansen told the Senate that S. F. 39 would give mandatory registration to the area that needs it and can be supported by both metropolitan and outstate legislators.

Senator Gordon Rosenmeier then rose to ask whether S. F. 39 did not come under the provisions of Article Eleven, Sec. 2 of the Minnesota Constitution:

"Every law which upon its effective date applies to a single local government unit or to a group of such units in a single county or a number of contiguous counties is a special law and shall name the unit or, in the latter case, the counties, to which it applies. The legislature may enact special laws relating to local government units, but a special law, shall become effective only after its approval by the affected unit expressed through the voters or the governing body and by such majority as the legislature may direct."

Would application of the Home Rule Article mean that all the 50-odd local units would have to approve the law before it could become effective? Or would it mean that either the voters or county boards of Hennepin, Ramsey, Dakota, Anoka and Washington counties would have to approve it? Or perhaps because the bill would affect a group of local units in several counties (rather than in a single county) strict interpretation of Article Eleven would exempt S. F. 39 from classification as a special law.

No final action will be taken until Senator Hansen can clear up the question. Is S. F. 39 a general law or a special law?

HOUSE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

<u>Room</u>	<u>Time of Meeting</u>	<u>House Committee</u>
203	M 12:00	Agriculture & Cooperatives
109	Daily 8:00	Appropriations
2	M 9:00	Cities of 1st & 2nd Class
3	W & F 12:00	Civil Administration
303	On Call	Claims
2	F 10:00	Commerce
304	Th 11:00	Commercial Transportation & Commun.
302	Th 12:00	Dairy Products and Livestock
302	T 8:00	Drainage & Soil Conservation
3	M & W 10:00	Education
304	W 9:00	Elections
3	T 9:00	Employees Compensation
3	Th 9:00	Financial Institutions & Securities
2	F 1:00	Forestry & Public Domain
3	F 11:00	Game & Fish
2	Th 9:00	General Leg. & Veterans Affairs
3	T 11:00	Health & Welfare
2	W 11:00	Highways
2	W 9:00	Insurance
202	M, T & Th 12:30	Judiciary
2	M 11:00	Labor-Management Relations
2	T 1:00	Law Enforcement & Juvenile Del.
3	F 1:00	Metropolitan & Urban Affairs
3	M 9:00	Motor Vehicles
2	Th 1:00	Municipal Affairs
3	F 9:00	Reapportionment
2	M 1:00	Recreation & Water Resources
265	On Call	Rules
2	T 9:00	State & Junior Colleges
3	T & Th 10:00	Taxes
3	W 1:00	Temperance & Liquor Control
304	T 12:00	Towns & Counties
2	W 1:00	University

Capitol



Letter

a publication of the
League of Women Voters of Minnesota
Vol. IV, No. 3

Editor: Mrs. Nicholas Duff
President: Mrs. William Whiting
March 1, 1965

THE DISCRIMINATION STORY

If you've been reading the newspapers undoubtedly you have been confused about the charges of partisanship, delays and conflict of opinion regarding amendments to the State Act Against Discrimination. Let us review for you what has happened so far.

The Minnesota Council for Civil and Human Rights is a co-ordinating organization made up of representatives from many other organizations - human relations agencies, religious groups, civic organizations, labor unions - any sort of body which has as parts of its program support of civil rights laws. The League of Women Voters has never actually belonged but we have been represented by participating observers for several years. MCCHR was recognized as the clearing house for strengthening or improving the State Act Against Discrimination. The member organizations agreed to work for these changes:

- 1) increased funds and staff including legal services for the State Commission Against Discrimination, the Governor's Human Rights Commission and the Minnesota Indian Affairs Commission,
- 2) commission enforcement of laws dealing with discrimination in public accommodations, education and public services (for example, law enforcement and welfare),
- 3) extension of coverage of the law to include all housing and employment,
- 4) increased sanctions against labor unions and businesses upon proof of

discriminatory practices,

5) streamlining SCAD's enforcement procedures through granting the power to issue binding orders which would remain in effect until reversed or modified by a court of law and granting the power to hold the piece of property for a reasonable period of time during the process of investigation.

By February 2nd bills had been introduced into the House and Senate (H.F. 226 authored by Representative Hall; S.F. 416 authored by Senator L. Larson) which embodied most of these proposals. There was no extension of coverage in employment or housing and no provision to hold property during investigation. There was the confusing fact of only one author in each house.

Recognizing that the Conservatives had control of both houses, and under the urging of advisors from both political parties, that they seek the authors most likely to be able to shepherd proposals into law regardless of their caucus, two Conservative legislators were approached by MCCHR for advice in deciding how much to "break up the package" and how the bills could best be written. It was their intention to seek DFL authors as well.

Meanwhile, early in January, serious talks began on the possibility of merging various human rights agencies. This was prompted by the belief that a single agency could provide a more coordinated program than separate agencies. Those interested in human rights expressed the

hope that this combination would not be looked upon as an excuse to cut appropriations. There has been a general reluctance on the part of supporters of civil rights to discuss alternative merger proposals for fear that attention will be drawn away from the more important measures designed to strengthen the law.

However, we believe that serious consideration should be given to differences in merger plans. What are we combining? SCAD is a law enforcement agency created by the legislature with the specific assigned duties of enforcing the housing and employment provisions and with specific educational functions related to enforcing them both in the instance where discrimination has unlawfully occurred and in general where discrimination is likely to occur. As originally conceived, its activities would be restricted to the fields of employment and housing. This educational function of the law enforcement agency is strongly supported by the League of Women Voters. The Governor's Human Rights Commission was created by executive order under Governor Thyne. With its broad mandate it embraced all other areas of human relationships. Its purpose was to advise the Governor to locate and define trouble spots in human rights in Minnesota, to recommend legislation, and to develop educational programs which would improve the climate where racial tensions were found to exist. In their early years direction for areas of concern came from the governor's office.

As one might have expected when the FEPC was created in 1955 with education a vital part of its compliance procedure, the question arose as to how much of its educational program relating to employment the Governor's Human Rights Commission should give up. This consideration was increased by the passing of the Housing Amendment and it would have continued to increase as new provinces were added to SCAD for commission enforcement. It had previously been the view that the work of conciliation and enforcement was more effective when it was divorced from more general educational activity. Experience

has demonstrated that one educational area cannot be separated from another. For this reason informed opinion now favors merging the two agencies. But how is this to be done?

One merger plan calls for creation of a Department of Human Rights which would have a commissioner appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The commissioner would organize the department into such divisions or sections as he deemed necessary and would name the deputy and such other employees as he deemed necessary. The Commission as such would be abolished and re-established as the Board of Review; thus, a commission made up of citizens from each legislative district would no longer determine policy for the commission, nor hire its staff. We in the League must evaluate how this would affect our stand in favor of commission enforcement and whether the policy formulated by one man appointed by the governor and Senate is more likely to generate broad public support than that developed by a bi-partisan commission as at present. If a department is created will it mean that "civil rights have come of age in Minnesota" as proponents think or will it become entangled in politics?

Another plan in essence would increase the duties of SCAD (renamed Commission of Human Rights) to include all the broader concerns of the Governor's Human Rights Commission. Special problems not handled by this Commission would be investigated by several citizen committees appointed by and advisory to the governor.

The status of the situation at the moment is that the first merger plan is already in the legislature sponsored in the House by Representatives Flake, Schwarzkopf and J. T. Anderson H. F. 733. And the second, recommended by Governor Rolvaag in his Civil Rights message is not yet in bill form. Legislators are already asking whether full appropriations are necessary if the agencies are combined. Several bills for strengthening amendments to SCAD have come out of the office of the Revisor of Statutes but no one has

agreed yet to sponsor the bills. Civil Rights is threatening to become a partisan issue and representatives from both political parties, the Governor's office and Civil Rights organizations met last Friday to try to salvage an acceptable program. The consensus of the meeting was that the primary effort would be toward substantive improvement in civil rights laws, rather than stressing the merger aspect.

Mrs. Harold Watson

ELECTIONS

S. F. 326, a bill to apply parts of the Corrupt Practices Law to any school election, has been introduced by the majority leader, Senator Zwach. This provides that paid advertisements in newspapers and campaign material shall include the names of candidate and committee or any other person causing the publishing, to appear on or at the foot of the advertisement, and that any false statement, in relation to any candidate or proposition to be voted upon, shall be punishable as a misdemeanor. The companion bill, H. F. 343, passed the House February 16th.

Mrs. Mercer Cross

"LIBERTY" AMENDMENT RIDES AGAIN

House File 748, authored by Conservatives Wright and Jacobsen from Hennepin County and Morlock from Jordan, Minn. has been referred to the Tax Committee. This resolution asks for a U. S. Constitutional amendment to repeal the federal income tax and limit the treaty-making power of the President.

The League opposes it here as in other states (under National CRs) for:

- 1) The inadvisability of freezing into the Constitution an arbitrary limitation on federal income taxation. Decisions of this nature should be handled by congressional action in relation to current fiscal and economic conditions.
- 2) We oppose placing the suggested additional limitation on the treaty-making power of the President.

Mrs. Steven Orey

PARTY DESIGNATION "SITS" AGAIN

on the Senate committee table.

The first hearing of S. F. 271, the Party Designation bill was held in the Senate Elections & Reapportionment Committee, Tuesday Feb. 16. Testifying for the bill were Senators Coleman and Thuet, both from the DFL caucus, Mrs. O. J. Janski, 1st vice-president of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, Mr. George Thiss, vice-chairman of the Republican State Central Committee.

The proponents of Party Designation were given a very thorough cross examination by one of the committee members Senator Gordon Rosenmeier, Little Falls Conservative. The questions came thick and fast: If Party Designation were passed would the legislature be any better? Would it help to tie legislators to a political party? Hasn't the Minnesota Legislature made a good record?

Senator Norman Larson, Conservative from Ada made a motion to lay the bill on the table. Senator Coleman objected because the committee had not had the opportunity to discuss the bill. He asked for a roll call. Senators Ogdahl and Bergerud, Hennepin County Conservatives, joined with four members from the DFL caucus. The vote: 12-6.

After some discussion and confusion, Senator Coleman was permitted to continue the discussion Tuesday, Feb. 23. At this time he asked that the committee either vote the bill up or down, not just lay it on the table, because this keeps it in a state of limbo - neither alive nor dead.

Senator Norman Larson once more made the motion to lay the bill on the table. Motion carried: 10-7.

Party Designation will be heard in the House Elections Committee at 9 a.m. on March 10th.

Mrs. Homer Mantis

ANNUAL SESSION BILLS

H.F. 100, providing for 60 day annual sessions of the Legislature has been joined in the Civil Admin. Com. by H.F. 837 a bill for 90 day annual sessions.



Senator Mel Hansen (right) shows the New Resident Voting bill to co-author Henry McKnight

MANDATORY REGISTRATION

At the top of the Senate General Orders sits our S. F. 39 which extends mandatory registration to more municipalities within the metropolitan area. Seeing it there is heart-warming indeed but all is still not well. Home Rule problems persist.

Senator Mel Hansen, chief author, has contacted the St. Louis County legislators to determine their feelings about amending the bill to apply to all counties containing cities of the first class and counties contiguous to them which have over 40,000 population. This would take the bill out of the category of "special legislation" and would make it apply to 28 additional municipalities in St. Louis County. The Leagues there have been asked to speak to their senators in support of this measure.

Over in the House, the bill is still before the Elections Committee. Hearings have been delayed to allow more time for officials in the five county metropolitan area to express their opinions of the bill. A Time for Action has gone out to Leagues in the 30, 31, 43, 48N, 50, and 51st districts to notify their representatives of DW support of H. F. 173.

Mrs. Mercer Cross

LIFE LOOKS UP FOR THE NEW RESIDENT

The New Resident Election law, which would permit new Minnesota residents to vote for President and Vice President before they have lived here six months has had committee hearings in both House and Senate. The progress of the bill has been complicated by the introduction of similar but not identical bills in both houses. The chief authors of the League-backed companion bill are Senator Mel Hansen and Rep. Otto Bang. The other New Resident bill has Gary Flakne as chief author in the House and Keith Hughes in the Senate.

The House Elections Committee heard Rep. Flakne speak on behalf of his bill Feb. 17. Senator Hansen requested that it be referred to subcommittee so that differences between the two versions could be straightened out. Rep. Flakne and Bang agreed.

Feb. 23rd Senator Hansen had a brief hearing in the Senate Elections & Reapportionment Committee, telling them he would be back with the final version of the bill after he'd met with the House authors. Your lobbyist also testified.

Later that day all the authors finally got together. Louise Kuderling, election laws expert from the League of Minn. Municipalities, and your lobbyist were asked to join them.

It is with the greatest of pleasure that we report that all the bills for New Resident voting were revised so they tally exactly, conform very well with Minnesota election laws, and we can enthusiastically support this new bill. Rep. Flakne will be the chief House author and Otto Bang probably will join him.

Mrs. Michael Richdorf

The name's not the same. The Liberal caucus in both houses has officially adopted the name Democratic-Farmer-Labor caucus so from now on we shall refer to them as DFL.

Capitol



Letter

a publication of the
League of Women Voters of Minnesota
Vol IV, No. 4

Editor: Mrs. Nicholas Duff
President: Mrs. William Whiting
March 15, 1965

A FRESH LOOK AT COUNTY GOVERNMENT

County government -- once on the lowest rung of the citizen interest ladder--is working its way up. Community problems which cut across municipal boundaries have turned our eyes toward the next largest unit of government--the county. Our concerns vary, depending on where we live. In some out-state areas decreasing population and the difficulty of maintaining services in the face of reduced revenue is a major concern. In the metropolitan areas, both Twin City and outstate, problems of transportation, water and air pollution and sewage disposal occupy center state. We are asking ourselves if even counties can deal adequately with problems which may well extend beyond their geographic limits.

Among the many groups taking a fresh look at county government is, of course, the League of Women Voters. Several Leagues around the state have done, or are doing, "Know Your County" surveys. County items are appearing on many local agendas. The Council of Metropolitan Area Leagues (CMAL), formed in 1962 by local Leagues in the seven counties of the Twin City complex, has incorporated a study of county government into its first program item.

In the opinion of some experts--the Minnesota Association of Counties, the Citizens League of Minneapolis and Hennepin County, and others--a first step in dealing with what are called problems in county government would be to implement the 1958 amendment to the Constitution allowing county home rule.

County activities are rather strictly circumscribed. The county is legally a creation of the state legislature and can neither initiate nor engage in any activity not prescribed by state law. In contrast, the organizational structure of county government--with its crazy quilt of boards, elected officials, appointed officials, appointed boards and commissions with no real central authority -- seems haphazard. Under a county home rule charter the citizen could decide whether to continue the present commissioner form of government, or adopt some other form such as county manager, elected executive, etc. A charter also could make all other county officers, boards and commissions responsible to the county board of commissioners rather than to the state legislature. This would tighten the structure of county government and still allow flexibility in that each county could deal directly with problems peculiar to that county without the necessity for special state legislation to permit action.

The Joint Powers act--if used to its full potential--is seen by many as another tool for dealing with county problems. This law stipulates that counties and other political subdivisions can jointly or cooperatively provide governmental services which either of them cannot provide alone. The possibilities inherent in the act are many, but it is seldom employed because of the strict interpretation put on it by the attorney general. It seems easier

to go to the state legislature and get special legislation, thereby avoiding any question of legality.

The above are long range proposals for strengthening county government and enabling it to deal with larger problems in the future. There are, of course, many bills now before the legislature which relate to immediate and specific problems.

Opposition to strengthening county government comes from those who would like to see it left alone. Their reasons are numerous and provocative. A strong county board could take over the responsibilities of local units of government, considered by some to be a real threat. Others get a feeling of reassurance from strict legislative control over county spending which they believe holds costs down. Still others think that strengthening county government would only entrench a level of government which is already obsolete. Their conviction is based on the fact that counties become entities through a legal exercise. Geographically, counties are historical accidents. They are merely legal units; existing lines

no longer have any relationship to physical, economic, social or other factors on which a community of interests is based. It is thought-provoking to consider that by attempting to strengthen county government we may be saddling ourselves with a structure that ultimately will prove ineffective and inefficient and that may hinder more appropriate solutions to the problems we face.

In discussing county government it is easy to become so engrossed in the problems to be solved that we forget one very important thing: the reason why counties exist at all. Their ordinary function, defined by law, is simply to serve as agents of the state. However, counties are now expected to provide services increasingly like those expected of municipalities -- in such fields as parks, hospitals and libraries, for example. The question of what the basic function of county government actually should be lies at the heart of any evaluation of proposed changes. Do they propose to streamline county government making it more efficient or do they presume new functions for counties?

Mrs. John Hutchens and Mrs. John Work

AMENDING THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION

The Federal Constitution gives states a formal role in amending the Constitution. On the application of 2/3 of the states, Congress must call a convention for the purpose of amending the Constitution. This procedure has never been used successfully.

In the Minnesota Legislature, H.F. 522 is a bill requiring Congress to call a convention to propose an amendment allowing apportionment on some factor other than population in one house. It passed by a vote of 97 to 36 in the House and has gone over to the Senate Elections & Reapportionment committee. The vote was generally along rural-urban lines with all but 4 metro-area representatives voting nay. Governor Rolvaag speaking at the Legislative Observers Program said he personally did not oppose an area factor amendment. Nationally 22 of the necessary 34 states have passed bills similar to H.F. 522.

The so-called "Liberty" amendment would also require the calling of a Federal Constitutional Convention. It has passed in only seven states.

As well as this formal role, state legislatures memorialize Congress, asking it to submit amendments to the states. Memorials have no force of law but simply express the sentiments of a state legislature to Congress. Legislatures can and do memorialize Congress on a variety of different subjects - the closing of a Veterans' Hospital, establishment of parks, etc.

Senate File 1 which has been passed by the Senate memorialized Congress to submit an amendment in the reapportionment field. The companion bill in the house is H.F. 2, now in committee.

Mrs. Earl Colborn

IMPRESSIONS OF "LIBERTY" AMENDMENT
HEARINGS

Almost 100 people jammed into the House Tax Committee hearing room Thursday morning, March 11, to witness the biennial effort on behalf of the so-called "Liberty" Amendment. This is a resolution to Congress to call a convention to repeal the federal Income Tax, dispose of all federal business activities not specified in the Constitution and limit the treaty-making power of the President and Congress.

Outside in the hall, men were passing out fliers and buttons which proclaimed, "Repeal Income Tax."

Rep. F. Gordon Wright from Minneapolis presented the bill and introduced Mr. Ivan C. Stone of Los Angeles, Calif. to testify for it. Mr. Stone, who has spent 20 years in promoting this item, flies all over the country speaking to state legislatures. He is an impressive and dramatic speaker. By using selective arguments and one-sided allegations, he claimed wonderful benefits would follow the adoption of the amendment--"money in the pocket of everyone in this room," getting the government out of business and preventing federal "usurpation" of states rights and individual rights. His skilled presentation brought applause and laughter from the largely pro-Liberty Amendment audience.

Questions followed by Tax Committee members, many of whom had been busy reading the League testimony opposing the amendment content. Chairman Roy Dunn said after the meeting that he did not believe the committee was serious about the bill.

In the Senate Tax committee hearing that afternoon, a more subdued atmosphere prevailed. The crowd of button-wearing supporters was smaller and quieter. Mr. Stone again spoke, this time being introduced by chief author, Senator Clifton Parks of St. Paul.

Mr. Stone took notice of the League testimony and the copy of Senate Document 56 which the League had provided each committee member. He said U.S. Senate Document 56, a report by Senator Carl

Hayden of Arizona, contained 79 errors and he would send committee members his material listing the errors.

Committee chairman Donald Wright invited further testimony by proponents. One lady quoted Karl Marx to show that the personal income tax was a communist plot to weaken our country. A man urged the committee to pass the bill out to the floor of the Senate for full debate to "bring publicity for our cause." Still another witness bringing out the point that the "liberty" amendment would abolish social security, expressed resentment that "we have to support the stupid people who have failed to provide for their old age." On and on the testimony went, expressing the frustrations and fears of people who feel, somehow, we are losing our freedom and the "liberty" amendment would restore personal independence and self sufficiency to the American people.

The proponents left the hearing room murmuring happily about the opportunity they had been given to express themselves. Mr. Stone hurried grim-faced down the hall, fully realizing that the effect of his skillful testimony had been totally destroyed by his most sincere supporters. Indeed, Senator Wright had given the supporters all the rope they needed to hang their cause.

Mrs. L. G. Murray

NEW RESIDENT BILL - SMOOTH SAILING

The first League success is about to be won. The bill to allow new residents to vote for President and Vice President before meeting Minnesota's 6-month residence requirement has sailed through both House and Senate committees. Sen. Mel Hansen and Rep. Otto Bang presented the bill to the committees. Testifying in addition to the League were the League of Minnesota Municipalities and the Hennepin County League of Municipalities. The bill is on General Orders in both houses and local Leagues are busy conferring with their legislators.

Mrs. Michael Richdorf

PARTY DESIGNATION - SHIP AGROUND

In an unprecedented action, Rep. Gordon Wright, chairman of the House Elections committee, has sunk Party Designation for this session. After scheduling a hearing Wednesday, March 10, for Rep. Walter Klaus' Party Designation bill, Rep. Wright reversed himself and cancelled the hearing. He refused to consider Party Designation at all, since a similar bill had been tabled in the Senate.

Later, relenting somewhat, Rep. Wright suggested that if the League and Mr. Klaus wanted a hearing, we should appear before the whole committee and request it. The League has testified many times before many committees, but never before have we appeared to request permission for a hearing.

Wednesday, March 10, the Elections Committee by unanimous vote decided to turn all Party Designation bills over to a sub-committee of Reps. Schaefer, Fischer and Battles. Both Fischer and Battles opposed Party Designation in 1963.

Mrs. Homer Mantis

SCAD APPROPRIATIONS

The State Department sub-committee of the House Appropriations Committee heard the budget request for the State Commission Against Discrimination, Thursday, March 11. Mrs. Viola Kanatz, acting executive director of SCAD and Mr. Kennon Rothschild, chairman of the Commission presented SCAD's needs. Rep. Lyall Schwartzkopf, citing the need for SCAD services in his district, urged the sub-committee to recommend a full appropriation. His request was echoed by spokesmen for the League, NAACP, Minn. Council on Human and Civil Rights and 3 community citizens' groups including Bloomington and White Bear Lake.

After the requests of the state departments and agencies have been made, the sub-committee will consider them in meetings which will not be open to the public. A final report, covering all departments, will be submitted to the full committee later in the session.

Mrs. Harold Watson

MANDATORY REGISTRATION

S.F. 39 extending mandatory registration to more municipalities within the metropolitan area, is still on General Orders in the Senate. The Home Rule question continues to block further action as the St. Louis county delegation does not wish to be included at the present. The House companion bill is still before the Elections Committee.

Some legislators from districts affected by this bill have expressed lack of support for mandatory registration in their areas. Objections include the possibility of disfranchising many voters, the difficulty and cost of registration plus the need for municipal officials to keep permanent records. Some legislators also question the need for registration in some of their more rural areas. Several legislators said they would prefer a statewide registration bill.

Local League members who have had experience as election officials and can comment on their need for registration should contact their legislators. Remember this bill does not apply to municipalities in which less than 300 votes were cast in the last general election. Moral support to municipal officials and offers of help by local League members may also be in order.

Mrs. Mercer Cross

ENFORCEMENT

The constitutional amendment to insure regular prompt reapportionment recommended by the bipartisan Reapportionment Commission is now being put into bill form by the Governor's office. The League's January reapportionment consensus supports this measure and we will work for it in the legislature.

Rep. Connie Burchett's bill for a constitutional amendment requiring Party Designation for legislators has been introduced as H.F. 1061. Co-authors are Bang (C), Shulz (C), Nordin (DFL) and Berke (DFL).

Capitol



Letter

a publication of the
League of Women Voters of Minnesota
Vol IV, No. 5

Editor: Mrs. Nicholas Duff
President: Mrs. William Whiting
March 29, 1965

EVALUATING REAPPORTIONMENT PLANS

Now that the Senate has passed a reapportionment bill, the House is working seriously on its version. If this differs from that of the Senate, as is expected, both bills will go to a conference committee made up of several legislators from each body. Theirs will be the responsibility for working out compromises and writing the bill in its final form.

Six reapportionment plans have been introduced in this session, leaving the average citizen a bit bewildered. Evaluation of the merits of each bill is complicated by the fact that the courts, the political parties, and the legislature itself all use different standards for judging acceptability.

The courts have stated that districts must be substantially equal in population, but they have not defined exactly how much deviation from the average will be tolerated. The U.S. House of Representatives may have set a standard when it voted last week to make 15% the maximum deviation for congressional districts. Another test of apportionment used by the courts is the percentage of the population which could theoretically elect a majority of the legislature. In Minnesota this is found by adding up the population in the 34 smallest Senate districts and the 68 smallest House districts and then seeing what percentage of the state's total population each figure represents.

Although legislators recognize that a reapportionment bill must meet court criteria, the immediate concern of each is, "What will it do to my district?" Their next concern is how many contests

between incumbents will the bill create, and who are they? In general, legislators oppose redistricting which cuts across county and municipal boundaries and which ignores natural barriers such as highways. They are also keenly aware of the impact of different ethnic groups and economic interests within a proposed district.

The political parties tend to look at the over-all picture rather than the problems of individual districts. Even within the parties, however, experts react differently to the various plans--reflection of conflicting interests in the statewide party structure. Consequently there has been no unified party leadership on reapportionment.

Political science professor Charles Backstrom has devised a system which used the University of Minnesota computer to evaluate bills by court standards. He has prepared 4,000 cards--one for each voting precinct in the state. These cards can be sorted to correspond with the districts proposed in a given bill, and fed into the computer. Within 2½ minutes the computer will calculate the population in each district, provide answers to the mathematical tests used by the courts, and determine the political complexion of each district according to the 1962 Rolvaag-Andersen vote for governor. The "print-out" sheet containing this information is 73 feet long. Professor Backstrom estimates that it takes 2 to 3 hours to group the precinct cards for most of the state, but where municipalities are split--as in the Twin Cities--population figures for each block must be used. This adds 8 more hours.

(continued from page one)
Reapportionment Bills

Two of the 6 proposed bills have not been analyzed by Professor Backstrom--the DFL bill introduced by Rep. Latz and the plan of Sen. Bergerud which gives more representation to the Twin City suburbs than any other.

The Senate bill is the one introduced by Sen. Sinclair and amended by the Elections and Reapportionment committee. Because it does not delineate House districts in 51 of the Senate districts, it can be evaluated only as it relates to the Senate.

The Governor's Commission bill was the first to be publicized. It was introduced by Sen. Perpich and follows traditional districting patterns.

Sen. Davies' plan would achieve the smallest variation in population, but since it does not protect incumbents it is considered a "theoretical" plan rather than a "practical" one.

Rep. Klaus' plan is the only one which increases the size of the legislature. It does protect incumbents and it provides for 2 representatives in every Senate district. It has 69 Senate districts and 138 House districts.

COURT TESTS						POLITICAL ANALYSIS	
Ratio of smallest to largest districts (1)		Ratio excluding compensating districts (2)		% of population to elect majority		Districts won by Rolvaag & Andersen in 1962 election	
						HOUSE	SENATE
Present Apportionment	House 6.72 to 1 Senate 3.79 to 1	House 5.80 to 1 Senate 3.79 to 1	House 5.80 to 1 Senate 3.79 to 1	House 35% Senate 39%		NOT AVAILABLE	
Senate Plan		1.73 to 1	1.43 to 1		46.64%		33 Rolvaag 34 Andersen
Commission Plan	1.67 to 1	1.51 to 1	1.51 to 1	1.46 to 1	45.77% 47.12%	64 Rolvaag 71 Andersen	32 Rolvaag 35 Andersen
Davies Plan	1.40 to 1	1.41 to 1	1.40 to 1	1.2 to 1	47.64% 48.67%	67 Rolvaag 68 Andersen	35 Rolvaag 32 Andersen
Klaus Plan	1.49 to 1	1.46 to 1	NO COMPENSATING DISTRICTS		45.48% 46.76%	64 Rolvaag 74 Andersen	33 Rolvaag 36 Andersen

(1) The difference in size between districts is expressed by the ratio of the population in the largest districts to that in the smallest, called deviation. Using 100 as the ideal average, a 20% deviation would permit a range of 120

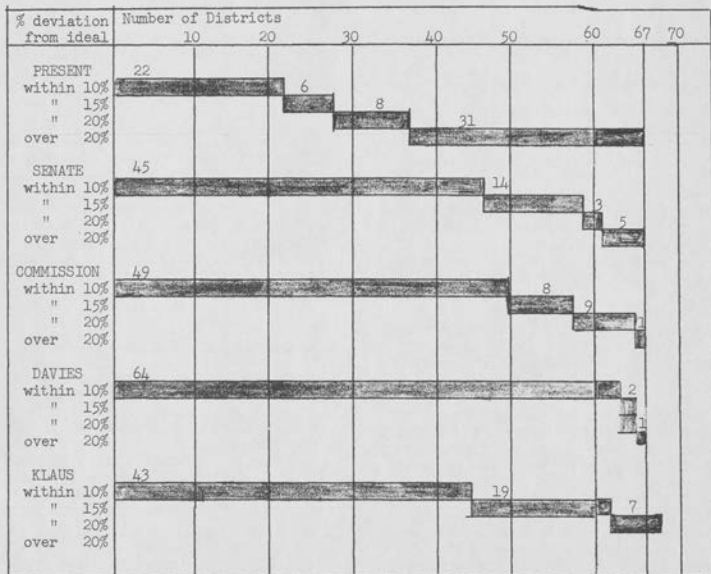
to 80 and the ratio ¹²⁰/₈₀ is 1.5 to 1, meaning that the largest district is 1 1/2 times larger than the smallest. A ratio of 1.66+ to 1 represents a 25% deviation; 1.35 to 1 a 15% deviation; 1.22 to 1 a 10% deviation, etc.

(2) The Courts have suggested that it is acceptable to allow under-representation in one house if balanced by over-representation in the other--a necessity in Minnesota where you can divide each of the 67 Senate districts into 2 House seats, but have the 135th House seat "left over." The Governor's Commission plan solved this problem by creating one over-sized Senate district divided into 3 small House seats. These compensating factors distort the ratio of deviation, but should be taken into account for a fair evaluation of a plan.

Perhaps more useful to the layman is a picture of how many districts in a plan fall within different percentages of deviation from the ideal. For example, the ratio of smallest to largest is 1.43 to 1 in the Senate plan and 1.2 to

1 under the Davies plan. This is a seemingly small difference, yet the Davies plan has 64 of the 67 Senate districts within 10% of the ideal while the Senate plan has only 45 districts within 10%.

DISTRIBUTION OF LARGE AND SMALL SENATE DISTRICTS



NEW RESIDENT BILL SIGNED BY GOVERNOR

The new resident election law sailed through both House and Senate and has been signed by Governor Rolvaag. In the House only five votes were cast against it. Senate approval was unanimous. Now a person who has lived in Minnesota 30 days may vote for President and Vice President on a special ballot. The six-month residence requirement for state and local offices remains unchanged.

Mrs. Michael Richdorf

 * HAT'S OFF -- *
 * *
 * and heartiest congratulations to *
 * Brooklyn Center Leaguer, Mrs. *
 * David Kanatz, newly appointed ex- *
 * ecutive director of the Minnesota *
 * State Commission Against Discrimi- *
 * nation. We fondly remember Vi as *
 * LMV state Board member and League *
 * lobbyist. *
 * *

CIVIL RIGHTS BILLS INTRODUCED

Amendments to strengthen the State Act Against Discrimination are being introduced in the legislature at last. Each proposed amendment is a separate bill:

1) will give S.C.A.D. jurisdiction over cases of discrimination in public accommodations. It is sponsored by Senators Rudy Hanson, Zwach and Grittner. Chief House author is Rep. Klaus joined by Ashbach, Rutter, Christensen and Earl Gustafson.

2) sponsored by Rep. Flakne in the House and Wayne Popham in the Senate will tighten the enforcement procedures of the Commission.

3) removes the employment exemption which now exempts employers of 8 or fewer employees. Chief authors are Lew Larson in the Senate and Rep. France in the House.

4) will remove the exemption in housing which specifies that the law will not apply to privately financed, owner occupied homes. Chief authors are Rep. Latz in the House and Harold Nelson in the Senate.

5) will increase sanctions against licensed businesses and union apprenticeship programs in which the state participates. Chief authors are Rep. Schwarzkopf in the House and Blatz in the Senate.

All Senate bills will go to the Judiciary Committee and House bills to Civil Administration. The League is working for the first three of these bills.

Mrs. Harold Watson

NEITHER SLEET NOR STORM ... NOR MANDATORY REGISTRATION

Two Falcon Height's Leaguers, Mrs. Harry Foreman and Mrs. Neal Amundson, set out in the St. Patrick's Day snowstorm that brought the Twin Cities to a standstill. Naturally they were on a League mission - to testify for Mandatory Registration at the request of Mrs. Mercer Cross, state League lobbyist. Drifting snow and poor driving conditions delayed but did not deter them. They arrived at the House Elections Committee room just in the nick of time to give their testimony. (Mrs. Cross never made it - stuck fast in a snowbank just outside the Capitol.)

The committee discussed dropping the bill, but (because of their appearance?) decided to table it awaiting action in the Senate. In the meantime, an amendment is being drawn up to change the application of the bill to all counties containing cities of the first class. This will include St. Louis county and also take the bill out of the category of special legislation.

VOTER QUALIFICATION BILL

A bill requiring voters to sign an affidavit stating their qualifications to vote has been introduced, S.F. 877, by Senators Mel Hansen, Perpich and Kroehler, chairman of the Elections & Reapportionment committee. This bill would apply to all voters except where there is a permanent registration system.

The House companion bill, H.F. 1144, is authored by Representatives Mitchell, Wright, Bang, Victor Johnson and Leslie Nelson.

The bill was heard in the Senate committee Tuesday, March 23, and was laid over. The question of cost, approximately \$3,000 was raised as one consideration. The League will testify in favor of this bill because of our interest in achieving more uniform and centralized election procedures.

Mrs. Mercer Cross

Capitol



Letter

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Editor: Mrs. Nicholas Duff
President: Mrs. William Whiting
April 12, 1965

LEGISLATION AFFECTING INDIAN CITIZENS

When we consider bills which affect Indian citizens in Minnesota, we find we are interested at several levels. Some bills may be of academic interest to Indians like two which would permit the Minnesota Historical Society to acquire the buildings which comprised the lower Sioux Indian Agency and the Roe Indian collection of Pipestone. Others do not relate directly to Indians but their passage might affect Indian affairs. Examples of these are bills relating to wild rice; several would regulate the harvesting of wild rice, one proposes an Interim Commission to study the production of wild rice, one would establish a wild rice research station at the University of Minnesota. Bills which would lift the limit on Old Age Assistance are of interest to Indians, as are the anti-discrimination amendments, a bill to establish statewide police training schools, or county natural resources improvement measures. What we hope is that legislators will remember that Indians are citizens and that as they consider these bills they will apply them to Indian areas.

A third category of bills names Indians as a group and bears closer scrutiny. Of these, one is intended to assist Indian citizens as a special class - the proposed increase in Indian scholarship aid. Others are designed to assist counties with sizeable Indian populations. S.F. 10 (authored by Walz), H.F. 27 (DeGroat) asks that \$203,000 be appropriated to Becker County in reimbursement for monies expended by the county over the past two years to care for

"needy persons of Indian blood." S.F. 9 (Walz) and H.F. 26 (DeGroat) would appropriate money to the Commissioner of Public Welfare so that Becker County could be reimbursed on a quarterly basis during the next two years for such money as is expended for the "support and relief of dependent and neglected children and indigent persons of Indian blood." S.F. 285 (Patterson, McKee, N. Larson) and H.F. 336 (Renner, DeGroat, Frick, Dickinson, Fena) proposes that the state reimburse all counties for the cost of relief furnished Indians. In the House of Representatives this bill has come out of the committee on Health and Welfare with the recommendation that it do pass and has been referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

This bill declares that the care and relief of Indians is a matter of special state concern and responsibility. It allows the Commissioner of Public Welfare to set forth rules and regulations for the manner of relief and to establish standards of assistance. An Indian is defined as a person who "has at least $\frac{1}{4}$ of Indian blood, or a person listed on the rolls of the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs as an Indian." The rationale used by counties in asking such reimbursement is that Indians were placed where they are by action of the federal government and that therefore the political subdivisions in which they reside should not have to be responsible for them. One argument put forth is that Indians do not pay real estate taxes. A philoso-

phical question arises in general for separating out a racial group and in particular when we include Indians who are eligible to pay such taxes. Mr. Peter DuFault, President of the Minnesota Consolidated Chippewa Tribe, says this numbers 50% of all Indians in Itasca County for example and 100% of all Indians in Hennepin or Ramsey County where there is no reserved land. Here the criterion for reimbursement is one of race. The League's position would be that such counties should receive aid because they are in need of financial assistance and not on the basis of the race of their constituents. The question is not an easy one, particularly if failure to reimburse would mean that Indian citizens would get less money.

H.F. 1029 (DeGroat), S.F. 951 (Patterson, N. Larson, McKee) relates to law enforcement services within Indian reservations. It came out of the House committee on Law Enforcement & Juvenile Delinquency with a recommendation to pass and carrying a recommended appropriation of \$80,000. It is now in the Committee on Appropriations. In this bill the questions raised are slightly different from those surrounding the previous one. First of all, there is no state aid for law enforcement in distressed counties as there is in welfare. Next, before 1953 federal officers enforced the laws on Indian reservations. When Public Law 280 was passed it conferred this responsibility on the State of Minnesota.

But the State of Minnesota does not engage in law enforcement. Therefore the burden fell on the counties containing reservations, counties which did not understand what their new duty was at first, and later, understanding it, found themselves hard pressed to raise funds to extend their law enforcement services. Nevertheless, the delicate question of separate reimbursement on the basis of race still arises, particularly since "localities outside of reservations containing persons of Indian blood" would be included. These bills may be expedient but the question of the desirability of "separate but equal" treatment continues to plague us.

A bill to revise the Minnesota Indian Affairs Commission is in the office of the Revisor of Statutes and will be introduced as soon as it comes out. It will reorganize the Commission somewhat, eliminating the 5 ex officio members of state departments as voting participants. Four legislators will be retained as Commission members as well as 3 citizens-at-large and 3 representatives from Indian tribes. The Indian representatives will have to be duly elected members of the tribal executive bodies, which is a new requirement. The bill will provide for the hiring of a professionally qualified, full-time staff administrator and a secretary and will carry an increased appropriation. If it passes into law, it will bring the Commission closer to the League's criteria for an effective agency.

Mrs. Harold Watson

AREA FACTOR FOR STATE LEGISLATURES

April 9 the Senate passed H.F. 522 calling for a national constitutional convention to allow one house of state legislatures to be apportioned on some factor other than population. The Senate amended the bill to say that the constitutional convention must be "for the single purpose" stated. A conference committee will have to resolve this small but possibly significant difference.

Congress must, on application of 2/3 of the states, call a constitutional convention. However, the request from the states must be identical. The House version is the same one passed by approximately 20 states. At least 8 more states have passed similar but not identical resolutions. There is some uncertainty about this process as it has never actually been used, but regardless of the technicalities the effect of these requests is putting pressure on Congress to initiate some sort of area factor amendment. Hearings are now being held in Washington concerning 50 such proposals.

CORRUPT PRACTICES

A bill to add a section to the Corrupt Practices Act has been introduced in the House by E. W. Quirin, Rochester DFLer. H.F. 1327 would prohibit any candidate for public office or any person or committee acting in his behalf, to publish any campaign advertisement of any kind or to advertise by radio or television, more than 56 days before the primary election.

This bill was heard by the House Elections Committee April 7, and referred to a subcommittee headed by W. C. Fischer. The League testified in favor of this bill because of our interest in shorter campaigns and with less money spent during campaigns. Objections to the bill were that it would not prohibit someone who was not a candidate from publishing information against the candidate before the stated date, and that a candidate couldn't take full advantage of county fairs. Some legislators felt 56 days was not sufficient for a candidate for state office to become well known throughout the state. Some changes in the original bill seem likely.

Mrs. Mercer Cross

The resolution requesting the so-called "Liberty Amendment" to the federal constitution passed the Senate Tax Committee April 9th by a vote of 9-3. It is now expected to be considered soon in the House Tax committee.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Senators Coleman, Perpich and Parish have introduced a bill, S.F. 1231, to extend mandatory voter registration from municipalities having a population of 10,000 to those having a population of 5,000 or more. Other parts of the bill deal with keeping registration records and notification of eligible voters who have failed to keep their registration active by voting once every four years. The League will support that part of the bill extending mandatory registration.

Mrs. Mercer Cross

AMENDMENTS TO STATE ACT AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

At 3 pm April 19, there will be a hearing on the 5 amendments in the Senate Judiciary Committee. No hearing has yet been held in the House.

LABELING OF IMPORTED MEATS

Five bills have been introduced into the legislature which require the labeling of meats - fresh, canned, frozen, cured - as to its country of origin. Stores with these products would be required to display signs saying such meats are imported.

The two Senate bills, S.F. 322 (authored by Perpich, Heuer, & Ukkelberg), and S.F. 1372 (Ukkelberg and Lofvegren) are in the Agriculture Committee at present and have not as yet been scheduled for a hearing. The three House bills, after considerable controversy in the Agriculture Committee were referred to a sub-committee with the possible intent of combining and amending them. They are H.F. 141 (Frenzel, Schaffer, Long & Falkenhagen), H.F. 364 (Rutter) and H.F. 194 (Everson).

The League of Women Voters will testify before these committees in opposition to these bills if and when they are scheduled for hearing. State Leagues have authority under our national trade position to oppose measures which restrict the sale of imported items because such action tends to impede world-wide trade. For many years the League of Women Voters has believed that a liberal U.S. trade policy will best serve the political and economic interests of this country by paving the way for political harmony with other nations, stimulating economic growth at home and abroad, and expanding the opportunities for consumer choice among a wide variety of products. The League supports a flexible, effective, and efficient trade policy.

Minnesota is an agricultural exporting state. Policies which would invite retaliation against our products abroad could have an adverse effect on a large segment of our economy.

Mrs. Roy Letourneau

LOCAL CONSENT - HOME RULE OR IMPASSE?

State governments create local governments and, through constitutional and statutory provisions, grant local communities varying amounts of local autonomy. Home rule is the power given to a local unit of government to make its own charter and govern itself under the provisions of that charter.

The passage of special legislation has been a problem since the first legislature met in Minnesota. A special law is one that affects only a particular local governmental unit or group of units. In 1892 the state constitution was amended to prohibit special laws from being passed. This was circumvented by identifying the local unit according to assessed valuation, population, area or other criteria. St. Paul, for example, without being called by name, was defined in a bill as, "any city of the first class now or hereafter operating a home rule charter providing for a commission form of government consisting of a mayor, comptroller and six commissioners . . ." In 1958 the constitution was amended again to allow special laws recognizing that they had been passed in the intervening years by subterfuge.

The 1958 Home Rule Amendment, included a provision that special laws, before they go into effect must have the approval of affected local units of government. This is local consent. For example, before the law turning Minneapolis General Hospital over to Hennepin County could become effective, both the Hennepin County Board and the Minneapolis City Council had to approve.

The 1958 amendment also included the language that the local consent provision could be changed by a general statewide law. That is, local consent could not be altered or eliminated for just one special law, but it could be done for all special laws. This section has been termed the "escape clause."

Legislators, elected county and city officials are in general agreement that the local consent provision in its present form has proved unworkable. Metropolitan problems of sewer, park, library, health and welfare appear insoluble if unanimous approval of all affected units of government is continued to be required. Outstate communities are alert to the possibility that knotty metro problems might spur the legislature into extremely stringent solutions which could destroy the foundations of home rule for everyone.

Since 1958, several bills have been introduced by members of both caucuses to alter or eliminate local consent. None have passed. This session two such bills have been introduced, one S.F. 720 by Senator Gordon Rosenmeier, the other S.F. 1126 sponsored by the League of Minnesota Municipalities. Senator Rosenmeier feels that there is no way to evade the necessity for having one central authority in the decision making process of government. His bill would dispense with local approval altogether except when the special law itself provides for it.

The League of Minnesota Municipalities feels that the Rosenmeier bill is unnecessarily stringent. Their bill would remove the local consent requirement on certain types of enabling legislation - that which permits a local unit to exercise an authority granted by the law. When 10 or more local units are affected by a law, the IMM bill would require approval by a 55% majority.

The Rosenmeier bill would apply to all special laws. The IMM bill would affect only laws concerning groups of local units. They feel only a few laws each session would be affected by the proposal.

Mrs. Walter Carpenter

Capitol



Letter

a publication of the
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Vol. IV, No. 7

Editor: Mrs. Nicholas Duff
President: Mrs. William Whiting
April 26, 1965

REAPPORTIONMENT ARENA

Time: Monday 10:30 a.m., April 19, 1965
Place: Senate Chambers, State Capitol

The Clerk of the Senate snaps a rubber binder from yet another thick packet of folded bills, drones, "Senate File 1745, a bill for a Constitutional Amendment, referred to Judiciary" ... and goes on to another bill.

This apparently routine announcement was the culmination of months of philosophical discussion by members of the Governor's Bipartisan Reapportionment Commission, and hectic days of effort by League lobbyists to get the right authors and to have the bill introduced in time. We made it.

Senate File 1745 and its companion, H.F. 1914 (referred to the House Reapportionment committee) contain a recommended constitutional procedure for periodic reapportionment as agreed upon by the Governor's Commission, and now actively supported by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota under its new consensus.

In brief, it provides that the legislature shall be required to redistrict its congressional seats and to reapportion and redistrict its state legislative seats after every federal decennial census. If the legislature believes that its current districting is still constitutional and elects not to reapportion, it is required to pass a law re-enacting its existing apportionment. The Amendment provides for a judicial review of the apportionment by

the state Supreme Court at the request of any qualified voter. Should the Supreme Court determine that the legislative action does not satisfy the constitutional requirements, it has two options:

- 1) it may, itself, modify the legislative action so that it becomes constitutional or
- 2) it may order the governor to convene a Citizen's Reapportionment Commission.

Other provisions of the Amendment specify the exact composition of the Commission, a timetable for its activities, standards of equality and other legislative details.

This proposed amendment satisfies two of the three standards set up by the League in its recent soul-searching on reapportionment:

- 1) It does leave the primary responsibility for apportioning to the legislature but does set up definite procedures if they fail to act.
- 2) It does limit the size of the legislature to its present number. It does not specify the maximum deviation of any district from the ideal, apparently feeling that these constitutional limits will be further defined by state and federal courts in the years to come, and that to set so rigid a limitation as to avoid the risk of unconstitutionality would make the apportioning process more difficult than necessary.

(reapportionment continued)

Senate chief author is Harmon Ogdahl, Conservative from Minneapolis, joined by DFLer Edward Novak and Conservative Clifton Parks from St. Paul. House chief author is Otto Bang, Edina Conservative, joined by Conservatives William Frenzel, Golden Valley and W. G. Kirchner, Richfield and DFLers Helen

McMillan from Austin and Richard O'Dea from Mahtomedi.

We hope for early hearings at which members of the Governor's Commission and The League will testify in support.

Mrs. O. H. Anderson

DISCRIMINATION

More than 25 groups representing labor, political parties, civic interests and religious communities supported the changes in the State Act Against Discrimination at the April 19th Senate hearing. President Mrs. William Whiting spoke for the League. The five bills considered were:

Discrimination in Employment

H.F. 1391 (France, Burchett, R.W. Johnson, Dirlam, Pavlak)

S.F. 1330 (Lew Larson, Ogdahl, McCarty)
These bills remove two exemptions, one which permitted discrimination on the basis of race in employing an individual "in the domestic service of any person," and another covering "a person who regularly employs fewer than eight individuals."

Discrimination in Public Accommodations

H.F. 1405 (Klaus, Ashbach, E.B. Gustafson, R.F. Christensen, Rutter)

S.F. 1269 (R. Hanson, Zwach, Grittner)
These would place the enforcement of our present public accommodations law under SCAD (State Commission Against Discrimination). Persons practicing such discrimination who refuse to comply with the law would be held in contempt of court as a final sanction. The provision in the present public accommodations law which states they "shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor" would be removed. This enforcement is proposed because it allows for education and persuasion before sanctions are applied, because the Commission itself can initiate complaints and develop broad education programs.

SCAD Procedures

H.F. 1603 (Flakne, Latz, Schwarzkopf, O'Brien, Wozniak)

S.F. 1462 (Popham, Novak, Dosland)

These would allow SCAD to set a time for hearing of a complaint by a Board of Review, after the Commission has established that there is probable cause for believing that an unfair practice does exist. Conciliation and education would be attempted during the period before the hearing. Another change is that SCAD may petition the district court for enforcement of an order of the Board of Review. These changes will shorten the time involved in processing complaints. They do not permit SCAD to issue a binding order nor to hold a job or a piece of property during investigation.

Discrimination in Housing

H.F. 1407 (Latz, DeGroat, McGowan, R.W. Johnson, J. T. Anderson)

S.F. 1294 (H.S. Nelson, Thuet, Westin)
These would remove the exemption, "the rental, lease or sale of a one-family dwelling, owner occupied, not defined as a publicly assisted housing accommodation." (Public assisted means financed by a government loan such as FHA)

Licenses or Permits

H.F. 1432 (Schwarzkopf, Priefel, House, H.J. Anderson, J.T. Anderson)

S.F. 1310 (Blatz, W. Anderson, Krieger)
These would provide that with continued discrimination by a business or a labor organization the proper licensing authority shall be notified and that any license or permit granted by the state or a political subdivision thereof shall be revoked. This covers apprenticeship programs also.

The League supports the first three bills. House action is being delayed by Rep. George French's refusal to schedule a committee hearing.

Mrs. Harold Watson

HEARING ON MEAT LABELING BILLS

Over 200 people poured into the special evening meeting of the House Agriculture Committee April 20th to hear proponents and opponents of the bills requiring labeling of imported meats.

Rep. Ron Everson, Wadena Conservative asked several farmers and housewives from various parts of the state to speak in support of the bills. Those opposing were, in addition to the LMV, representatives of the meat packing industry, Minn. Food Retailers Assn., Minn. Retail Federation and the Farm Bureau.

State Board member Mrs. Roy Letourneau explained that the League's opposition to these bills stems from our national support of liberal trade policies, a League concern since 1936 when we first supported the Reciprocal Trade Act. Her statement went on to say:

"In Congress the positions of the League of Women Voters on foreign economic policy are well known. League members often testify in support of liberal trade policies or against restrictive trade practices. In state legislatures these national positions of the League are not as familiar because laws are not often proposed which would thwart national trade policies. This is particularly true in Minnesota, a large exporting state, which has its own interest, as well as that of the nation, at stake in favoring open trade channels.

"Implicit in the League's support of liberal trade is opposition to measures which impede trade. The meat labeling bills under consideration here tonight are a form of protectionism and a means whereby our country's liberal trade policies are 'nibbled away piece by piece.' Our national government has already enacted agreements and safeguards with meat exporting countries to protect our interests.

"It has been determined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture that problems of oversupply have been primarily of home origin and only to a small degree the result of imports. Meat production in this country has risen considerably in the past few years. As a result, beef

exporting has become a new development and an encouraging one which would not flourish if protectionism is maintained or expanded. Restrictions, such as those implicit in the meat labeling bills, on one imported product, invite retaliation and trade barriers to be erected against these and others which we export such as soybeans or manufactured products. Therefore, to adopt restrictive measures by state action does not appear to be either in the best interests of this country or Minnesota."

The other opponents raised questions about the constitutionality of such a state law and the difficulty of enforcing it. Each group pointed out aspects of the bill which would cause hardship for them. The Farm Bureau supports trade restrictions, but feels it must be done at the national level. They said a memorial to Congress requesting national action would be better than encouraging states to create their own laws, which may differ considerably.

The supporters felt that agriculture suffers most from import policies. They felt meat labeling would give them fair competition. All of the proponents expressed fear that foreign meat was not inspected as thoroughly as American meat - a false issue since none of these bills has provisions regarding meat inspection.

Rep. Everson offered an amendment which would restrict labeling to fresh cuts of meat sold over the counter exempting canned products and ground meats. No action was taken on the amendment.

Personal note:

After the meeting a group of farm wives continued the discussion with the League representatives. One lady stated that she would not buy a blouse made in Japan. Yet 30% of Minn. soybeans are now exported, primarily to Asia, and the House Agriculture committee is trying to assist the University in a crash program to develop a soybean even more desirable for the Asian market. Trade Channels must be kept open both ways.

Mrs. L. G. Murray

PARTY DESIGNATION FOR LEGISLATORS

You will recall that at last report Party Designation had been "sitting on the table" in the Senate Elections and Reapportionment committee (still is) and in the House had been sent far down to an Elections sub-committee composed of 100% opponents.

A hearing was held Friday, April 23rd and the bill is still sitting - no action, no vote and we're not quite sure what might happen next, but keep watching. We now have not only a bill but also an amendment cooking.

Mrs. Homer Mantis, League lobbyist, Mr. George Farr, DFL State Chairman, and Mr. Robert Forsythe, chairman of the Republican State Central Committee, were eloquent as usual. Mountains could have been moved but not this sub-committee composed of Representatives Fischer, chairman, McLeod, Battles, Skaar (Halsted absent). Your editor was there, pen in hand, making random jottings:

Rep. Sabo: We have partisanship in the legislature. Let's recognize it... The voter has a right to know for whom he's voting.

Rep. Burchett: H.F. 1061 is a new approach to Party Designation for legislators. It's an amendment to give the people of Minnesota a chance to vote on the issue. How can you deny the people the right to vote?

Mrs. Mantis: The League of Women Voters has worked many years for this issue. We need it for responsible government. We need it for an informed ballot. We will continue to work for legislation and will support an amendment to the Constitution.

Mr. Farr: The concept of Party Designation should become a part of the legislative system so that voters can evaluate the legislature on the basis of issues which come before it. The legislature should share with the executive responsibility for a program for Minn. A majority of legislators in both the houses have publicly pledged support of Party Designation. Keep faith with the people.

Rep. Nordin: I have opposed Party Designation for years. But both political parties have wanted it for 30 years. Let's find out what the people want. I favor the amendment.

Mr. Forsythe: Let the amendment come on the floor of the House for a vote with Rep. Klaus' Party Designation bill. A strong two-party system is important for America. We have this in Minnesota, but one island is exempt from the party ticket. We want your help in drafting a platform and resolutions on programs for the people of Minn. We urge citizen participation in politics for the strength of our governmental system. They draft programs and then look for their public officials to enact these programs. Except for local officials, their own legislators are closest to them.

Rep. Battles: If you have Party Designation wouldn't you have too much influence on a legislator if he didn't hew to the party line? Our problems in the rural areas are different from the city. We have to represent our people.

Rep. Bang: When a person goes to the polls, he votes because of philosophy. In the legislature we are aligned as Conservatives and Liberals. I favor Party Designation for legislators. (Chairman Fischer calls on Rep. Iverson who has been sitting quietly in a corner chewing an unlit cigar.)

Rep. Iverson: Why does the LWV want to clutter up the Constitution with this proposal which could be handled by statute? I have always opposed Party Designation. We abolished it here in 1913 because our government was corrupt - controlled by railroad barons, liquor interests, etc. Now we have fine government, political interest of our citizens is high. I want to perpetuate representative government - do the best I can for my people. I'm not going to have anyone down in the city here dictate to me. If we had Party Designation, I'd have to run on national issues over which I have no control.

(whispered in my ear from Mr. Farr: I've been state chairman 4 years now and I have never yet asked him to do anything)

Rep. Bang: I have living in my district Mr. Forsythe, chairman of my state political party, and also Mrs. Lund, national committeewoman. I have never felt any pressure.

Chairman Fischer: We have almost no time left. I want to thank everybody. This has been very interesting and educational.

Capitol



Letter

a publication of the
League of Women Voters of Minnesota
Vol. IV, No. 8

Editor: Mrs. Nicholas Duff
President: Mrs. William Whiting
May 10, 1965

ELECTION LAWS ROUNDUP

Mandatory voter registration, handling of absentee ballots, a constitutional amendment to lower the voting age to 18, a resolution memorializing Congress to amend the U. S. Constitution providing for congressional apportionment based not on population but on the votes cast in a presidential election.

These are some of the election law issues facing this 1965 session of the Minnesota legislature. More than 30 bills have been introduced, about the same as usual. Most relate to election procedures. The League's New Resident Law passed early in the session. One-fifth of the bills are concerned with corrupt practices. A few relate to practices of the political parties.

The 15-member Interim Commission on Election Laws met between sessions, made two general recommendations and presented five bills. The four concerning election procedures passed both houses and now are law. The fifth, mandatory voter registration, continues to face difficulties.

Campaign Practices

Some of the most interesting and controversial bills are in the area of legislation titled corrupt practices. Senator Zwach's bill, which has now become law, provides that campaign literature and advertisements used in school elections and school bond issues must carry the name of the candidate and the volunteer committee.

Killed in the House Elections Committee was a bill to bring the funds collected by volunteer committees, as well as

campaign committees, under control of candidates for the state legislature. A bill to limit the length of the campaign by prohibiting the use of campaign advertisements in newspapers, billboards, radio or TV until 56 days before the primary is still before a House subcommittee.

The House has passed and sent to the Senate two bills that would prohibit candidates from implying that they have the support of an individual, organization or political party when they do not have this endorsement; or from using a photograph without the consent of every person in it or writings without the consent of the author.

Election Procedures

Legislation here ranges from providing judges of different political parties to assist voters unable to mark their own ballots to changing the election laws to allow the use of electronic voting systems. A bill that has become law allows partisan vote challengers to be at the polls one at a time - not the same challengers - all day.

Mandatory Voter Registration rated four bills this session. The House has passed a bill stating that it is the duty of the clerk of municipalities having voter registration or voting machines to so notify the Secretary of State. The League testified for a bill extending mandatory voter registration from municipalities having a minimum population of 10,000 to those having 5,000 or more. This was part of a bill which was laid over indefinitely in the Senate Elections & Reapportionment Committee.

The Interim Commission bill on registration, supported by the League, was amended to include municipalities where no fewer than 300 votes were cast in the last general election and where any polling place is within 15 miles of the boundaries of a city of the first class. This would expand the area to include not only municipalities in Hennepin, Ramsey, Anoka, Dakota and Washington counties, but also those in St. Louis, Carlton, Scott and Carver counties. As amended, the conflict with the home rule amendment is eliminated. It squeaked out of the Senate committee April 27 but faces more difficulty on the floor. The original version was permanently tabled in the House Election Committee.

Another bill asking voters in areas not having permanent registration, to sign an affidavit verifying their qualifications to vote ran into trouble in committee because of the question of expense. A bill has passed the Senate establishing a neighborhood registration

place for each 30,000 people in cities of the first and second class, before each general election and the primary in Presidential election years.

Political Party Practices

The rest of the election law bills are concerned with notification of party caucuses, delegate qualification for precinct caucuses and the use of political party names by groups not within official party structure.

The Future

Is there a need for more change in the present election laws? Apparently the majority of legislators think not. Senator Franklin Kroehler, Chairman of the Senate Election & Reapportionment Committee and Chairman of the Interim Commission on Election Laws, said there probably would not be an interim commission after this session because the last one didn't accomplish a great deal, and there has been no interest in or demand for another commission.

Mrs. Mercer Cross

FORREST TALBOTT - MINNESOTA'S ELECTIONS EXPERT



Where do you go if you have a question about Minnesota's election laws? Anyone at the Capitol would say, "See Forrest Talbott." Genial, pipe smoking Mr. Talbott is a familiar figure in Capitol offices and committee rooms, where his knowledge of election procedures is relied on by legislators of both caucuses.

His official title is Assistant Secretary of State, but unofficially he is regarded as our chief election official. He enjoys working under Secretary of State Donovan whom he represents at the legislature and with county election officials. Since taking his position in 1958, he has been especially helpful to many League lobbyists.

How do Minnesota election laws compare with other states? Mr. Talbott says we have the highest of standards, with one exception - the lack of statewide permanent voter registration. He personally agrees with many legislators that there is no need for registration in stable outstate areas. Further he fears that registration tends to diminish voter participation. Statistics show that of the 39 cities with population over 10,000 (where registration is mandatory) all but 12 had lower voting records than the remainder of their county. The

(Mr. Talbott continued)

only remedy, Mr. Talbott feels, is to make it easier to register.

Mr. Talbott is satisfied with the accomplishments of the 1965 legislature thus far for passing several important election improvements and in not passing some bad laws.

Because the election laws were re-codified in 1958 there has been no need for major revision, but Mr. Talbott would like to see a complete editing of the

Election Laws. "They are too bulky, poorly arranged and poorly worded -- causing confusion to county election officials."

One of the problems Mr. Talbott feels the legislature has not come to grips with yet is that of campaign expenditures and control of the volunteer committee. He also feels there will be growing pressure to lower the voting age to 18.

Mrs.L.G. Murray

* * * * *

ROUNDUP OF WATER BILLS

Minnesota, this land of 10,000 lakes, has a generous supply of water resources. Surface waters occupy about 5,000 square miles of the state's total area of 84,068 square miles. There are extensive underground supplies. These two sources are regarded as adequate to meet the needs of the state. Annual precipitation varies from about 19 inches in the Red River Valley to about 32 inches in the southeast corner of the state. Minnesota "exports" its water north, south and east from the continental divide that goes through the north central part of the state.

The demand for water is increasing. Homes, municipalities, industries are using greater quantities of water. Competition for this resource is becoming more common - for example, between recreation and industry. The importance of water quality as well as use has become significant.

Each legislative session brings a number of bills relating to water resources. Some are written into more comprehensive bills. Many become amendments to laws already in effect.

Requests for watershed districts, Minnesota River studies, canoe routes, controls for the appropriation of ground and surface waters are just a few examples of water bills in the 1965 session of the Minnesota legislature.

The possible reorganization of the Conservation Department, the proposed change in administering the water pollution program in Minnesota, and a proposal to rewrite the existing Watershed Act Chapter 112 could result in changes in the management of the state's water resources. As the session comes to a close the progress of these bills will be watched with great interest.

Several bills introduced to solve the metropolitan area sewage problem represent the attempts of various groups to present workable solutions. The Twin City Sanitary District, the Southwest Suburban communities and the North Suburban Sanitary District have presented bills.

Another aspect of water resource management deals with inter-state waters. A bill creating a Minnesota-Wisconsin Boundary Area Commission for the protection, use and development of boundary lands, river valleys and waters between the two states was introduced March 31. S.F. 1357 and its companion bill H.F. 1467 were authored by Senators Dunlap, Walz, Langley and Representatives Duxbury, O'Brien, Dirlam, O'Dea and Albertson. It provides for coordination of studies, conservation efforts and planning undertaken by the two states. Because of the concern for the St. Croix River, this bill is of particular interest.

Mrs. Grady Mann

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

The bill providing for joint election of Governor and Lt. Governor remains in the Rules Committee under the competent eye of 1963 session chief author, Robert Mahowald, a member of the committee. It was referred to this committee after being passed by the Elections committee on the request of the chief author, Donald Mitchell. The companion bill resides in the Constitutional Amendments subcommittee of the Judiciary committee - Senator Donald Wright, chairman. No hearings on this or any other constitutional amendments are foreseen until all are in and can be appraised with view to public acceptance.

Four bills have been introduced in the House to provide for Annual Sessions. None of them have companion Senate bills. All four are in the Civil Administration committee chaired by Rep. George French of Minneapolis -- where no hearings seem likely.

Rep. Morlock is author of a bill calling for annual sessions of 120 days and also providing for 4 year terms for representatives and 6 year terms for senators. The League cannot support longer terms having no consensus on this. At present, no states have 6 year terms for senators and 4 states have 4 year terms for representatives.

* * * * *

RANDOM JOTTINGS from a Lobbyist's Notebook

... Good to have authoring our bills League members Rep. Connie Burchett from Anoka and former state President Rep. Helen McMillan from Austin. Here are members who actually left the safe shelter of the League for the active arena. Hail!

... Surprising, at least to this lobbyist, was the prediction by more than one seasoned legislator that strong opposition can be expected to the provision in S.F. 1745 (reapportionment amendment) which provides for the naming of 2/3rds of the members of the Governor's Commission by the two political parties. As one legislator said, "Legislators who will not admit that we

Startling changes are spelled out in a bill sponsored by Representatives Fugina and C.A. Johnson. This bill calls for annual sessions, length to be determined by law, 75 representatives and 25 senators, salaries of \$10,000 annually with an additional \$2,500 expense fund, senate districts divided in thirds to make representative districts, all senators standing for re-election after each reapportionment, with half the senators chosen by lot going out of office after 2 years.

An interesting bill, H.F. 1108, with impressive bi-partisan authorship was introduced by Paul Overgaard, Albert Lea. It allows a legislator the right to run for election to another elective office providing that he resigns if successful.

Presently the state legislature is a dead end for potential politicians, rather than serving as a spawning ground for leadership. Now a legislator cannot run for a constitutional office if the salary of that office has been raised during his legislative term. He must wait one year to be eligible as a candidate for executive office. For example, Senator Elmer L. Andersen had to resign an entire session before running for governor.

Mrs. Walter Carpenter

have political parties in the legislature, will certainly not go along with putting them into the constitution." Shades of Party Designation!

... The courtesy shown me by the legislators even in these scrambled days is a tribute to them as gentlemen and also to the organization we represent.

Mrs. O. H. Anderson

A House Civil Administration subcommittee heard testimony on the Civil Rights bills Thursday, May 6, as tornadoes raged throughout the Twin Cities. Because of the storm many who planned to testify were absent. No action was taken.

Capitol



Letter

a publication of the
League of Women Voters of Minnesota
Vol. IV, No. 9

Editor: Mrs. Nicholas Duff
President: Mrs. William Whiting
June 7, 1965

REAPPORTIONMENT - UNFINISHED STORY

The next chapter in the saga of reapportionment will be written by the courts. Conservative leaders will challenge the legality of Governor Rolvaag's veto in the State Courts basing their challenge on Article IV, Sec. 23 of Minnesota's Constitution which says "... the legislature shall have the power to prescribe the bounds of congressional, senatorial, and representative districts..."

If this appeal to the State Supreme Court is successful the reapportionment plan passed by the 1965 legislature would become law. If this happens, the DFLers will challenge the Conservatives' reapportionment plan in Federal Court.

The Governor in his veto message charged that the plan drawn by the Conservative-dominated legislature was "intolerably deficient in population equality" and a "blatant calculated political gerrymander."

Perhaps most significant was the emphasis placed by the Governor on gerrymandering. He cited five different kinds of gerrymandering. He claimed districts were misshapen, that DFL-oriented districts were larger than Conservative ones, that the selective use of multi-member and single-member districts in Hennepin County was an attempt to nullify DFL votes, that safe districts were drawn for Conservative incumbents and that lines were drawn to insure contests between DFL incumbents.

The Courts, neither State nor Federal, have yet come to grips with the problem

of gerrymandering. The language in certain decisions in lower courts indicates their concern with this matter. However, the Supreme Court has not yet heard this issue. Last spring in two congressional districting cases, one in California, one in New York, the Supreme Court held that gerrymandering had not been proved although many political scientists disagreed.

A decision in a Federal Court in Minnesota on gerrymandering our state legislature could well be another landmark case. Political scientists hold that the courts will have to make decisions in this field, particularly in relation to discrimination against Negro voters in the south.

The uncertainty and confusion of the present situation emphasizes the need for an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution such as the one supported by the League of Women Voters in this 1965 session which would spell out the precise procedure to be followed in the event the legislature is unable to apportion itself.

Mrs. Earl Colborn, Jr.

A complete roundup of legislation in the League Program areas will be in the next Minnesota Voter.

A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PASSES:

The only constitutional amendment which will appear on the ballot in the fall of 1966 was passed in the Senate in the waning hours of the session, Saturday, May 22. It allows legislators to seek other elective positions, calls for resignation when legislators are elected to another office, and provides for a means for a legislator to resign from the legislature. None of these actions are currently possible under our constitution.

Strong authorship included chief author Paul Overgaard, Conservative and DFLers Fred Cina and Don Wozniak.

As usual the Constitutional Amendments received committee hearing in the Senate during the last days of the session. On Thursday, May 20th, an intermission phone call during League convention netted the information that Senator Donald Wright, chairman of the subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments, was calling a meeting for 5:00 p.m. that afternoon. At 4:59, breathless from bussing, I rushed to the 3rd floor chairman's office. No one in sight.. no committee meeting...but a penciled notice of a tax committee hearing at 3:00 was on the door. Down to the basement hearing room in time for heated discussion of sales tax and metro hotel tax bills. Back up to 3rd floor on adjournment of the tax committee at 5:40 in time to deter Senator Mel Hansen from leaving since he was one of the authors of the Governor & Lt. Governor bill. Senator Wright reappeared and one other member of the subcommittee. Graciously they suggested that I testify for whatever amendments the League was supporting. After speaking in favor of the joint election amendment, I also spoke of our past interest in an amendment to allow legislators to seek other offices. Senator Jack Davies was there as an author of a bill seeking such an amendment. Senator Keith Hughes was also there as an author of the joint election bill... and several others as spectators. Senator Wright thanked me for appearing.

The day after this hearing the League Convention amended the wording of the Constitutional CR item to define the

specific supported positions. It will not now be possible to support this amendment, before the Nov. 1966 election. Our traditional voters service efforts in explaining constitutional amendments will be valuable.

Mrs. Walter Carpenter

NOTES .. from the LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN (not to be confused with League principles, Program or positions)

The contrast between the leisurely good humored opening weeks of the session and the snarling confusion of the last has to be seen to be believed. We have long thought the chief advantage of a biennial session is that it gives the legislators more than a full year to regain their perspective and lick their wounds.

The House Journal for the first day was 12 pages long; for May 22 (next to last day) it was 218 pages.

Is the Conservative, but free wheeling, House upsetting the traditional Senate dominated power structure of the Legislature? Sometimes it seemed the House lacked leadership, yet it successfully challenged the Senate old guard on such major issues as reapportionment, metro-sewage planning and modifying local consent for special laws.

We've often thought while trudging through the halls, how truly beautiful our Capitol building is. The tremendous ceiling height and stately columns give a feeling of tranquility in spite of the hectic activity everywhere. The atmosphere itself is hopefully rosey in hue - the result of the light streaming in from skylights high above, tempered by the soft pink and tan of the interior marble.

Committee rooms and offices leave much to be desired -- most are overcrowded, hot and stuffy. You never quite get used to breathing second hand cigar smoke at 85° Fahrenheit.

Mrs. L. G. Murray

LEGISLATIVE OBSERVERS PROGRAM

The Program was based on Professor Backstrom's six lectures which were essentially the same as he gave for the 1961 Observers Program. Legislative speakers were contacted two to three weeks before the date on which they would speak. The Backstrom lectures were taped for later broadcast on KUOM. League lobbyists reports were given at the end of the Program each time.

The Program itself was consistently informative and interesting. Attendance was amazing considering the below zero temperatures and blizzards that plagued us. The two big problems were physical facilities and the party sponsored tours.

If attendance increases to 200 or more at each session (which seems likely) there are only two or three places big enough and close enough to the Capitol. Also, lunch must be provided or encouraged to be taken outside of the Capitol facilities. We jammed the lunchrooms in the Centennial Building and the Capitol. Two suggestions for facilities are:

1. Use Armory drill hall and have the parties split the expense. (Also try for reduced rental rate.) Have tables set up at back of hall and after the Program have catering service sell sandwiches and coffee there. Tour groups could arrange to eat together and local Leagues could invite legislators to eat with them. There's plenty of room for separating tables. The biggest problem would be getting a low rental fee - a lot of labor is involved in setting up and clearing a set up like that.
2. Get the party of the Governor to get the State Office Building auditorium for the League. This seats about 350 in comfortable theater seats. Make arrangements with Sears to accomodate extra people in their cafeteria. Party tour groups (especially if large) would have to use another solution if they want to have a speaker at their lunch. The "in" party has no trouble - DFL had after lunch speakers in the Governor's reception room - but where can "out" party meet? The State Office auditorium cannot be had through regular channels. You must go to the parties for this. I think it would be free, but check.

The problem of cooperating with the GOP on tours of the Capitol was because they have their own successful tour program and felt ours was competing with theirs. They also (especially Rhoda Lund) disapproved of Backstrom as the chief speaker. We had already engaged him and set up the morning program when we got the idea of party guided afternoon tours. Next time, we had better plan the whole program with the parties fight from the start. If agreement on program, etc., can't be reached, drop party involvement altogether.

Next time, the Legislative Chairman must have more Board help in carrying out the Observers Program. It has grown out of proportion for one busy person to handle. It is the biggest public meeting that the League sponsors, and when radio coverage is included, the number of people being reached is really immense.

I would suggest that:

1. All physical arrangements be handled by a Board member living in the metropolitan area. Getting an off-Board person for this responsibility takes just as much time and explanation as doing the job yourself. The portfolio doesn't matter here.

2. Working with the parties be headed by the Public Relations Chairman and include President and Legislative Chairman.

It would be possible to work the other way and limit the Observers Program to League groups to keep it smaller. That would be a mistake, I think. State government is the level which has the greatest need for citizen involvement and understanding. We are doing a service to the whole state if we can contribute to citizen education in this area.

However, the whole Board must realize what a big, many-faceted undertaking this Program has become. Every Board member should be willing to help. The only parts that can be handled ~~xxx~~ best by the Legislative Chairman are contacting legislative and administration speakers and checking lobbyists reports.

ATTENDANCE AT 1965 LEGISLATIVE OBSERVERS PROGRAMSLEAGUES - Number at each of the 6 meetings *

Anoka	6-3-0-0-3-2	Minneapolis	6-7-4-4-6-23
Arden Hills	0-0-11-0-2-3	Minnetonka	0-2-0-10-1-7
Battle Lake	0-0-0-0-5-0	Moorhead	0-0-0-0-2-0
Bloomington	1-2-1-1-15-1	New Brighton	4-0-5-0-1-0
Brooklyn Center	0-16-0-0-0-4	No. St. Paul	0-4-0-0-1-0
Brooklyn Park	1-7-0-0-0-0	Owatonna	2-0-1-3-5-0
Chisholm	0-0-0-0-0-7	Richfield	0-1-0-1-0-7
Columbia Heights	0-2-0-0-0-0-7	Robbinsdale	0-0-9-0-0-1
Crookston	0-0-4-0-0-0	Rochester	0-0-0-0-0-1
Crystal	0-0-9-0-0-0	Roseville	3-3-14-0-0-2
Deephaven	1-2-7-1-1-0	St. Anthony	1-0-0-0-0-0
Duluth	0-0-0-0-0-8	St. Croix Valley	4-2-0-3-3-1
Edina	6-5-0-0-2-0	St. Paul	12-14-15-9-10-10
Excelsior	1-6-7-3-3-1	St. Peter	0-0-0-0-0-11
Falcon Heights	4-3-10-1-2-3	Shoreview	4-3-10-4-0-3
Faribault	3-3-0-2-4-0	So. St. Paul	0-2-0-4-0-0
Fergus Falls	0-0-0-0-0-9	Wayzata	6-5-1-1-1-1
Fridley	1-1-9-0-0-4	Westonka	0-0-0-4-1-2
Golden Valley	10-8-5-3-5-11	W. St. Paul	4-4-16-2-1-17
Hibbing	0-1-0-0-0-0	White Bear Lake	8-9-7-6-1-4
Mahtomedi	12-13-0-8-17-5	Willmar	0-0-0-0-0-12
Mankato	0-0-0-0-3-0	Worthington	0-0-0-0-6-6
Maplewood	3-4-2-3-1-0		

* These figures are ~~not~~ not accurate since not everyone signed in each time, but they probably give a fair indication of attendance. Also, these are people who signed as League members. Some Leaguers signed as DFL or something else and so were counted as such.

44 local Leagues were represented. Approximately one third of the participants were non-League members.

Other organizations represented were:

DFL

GOP

Broken Arrow Service Guild

D of I

PTA

St. Barnabas

Minn. Nurses Assn.

Twin City AFDC League

AAUW

VFW

American Legion Auxiliary

Stillwater High School classes

2 Exchange Students

Minneapolis Tribune

Suburban Newspapers



THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

A STUDY IN DEPTH

LEARN in the morning

- .. Lectures by Dr. Charles Backstrom, University of Minnesota
- .. Speakers from the Legislature, Administration and Parties
- .. Reports from League of Women Voters lobbyists

LOOK in the afternoon

- .. Tour the Capitol with state D.F.L. or Republican leaders
Womens groups of both parties are sponsoring guided tours
- .. Have lunch with your party group or arrange to meet your
Legislators for lunch

Morning Session: 10:00 to 12:30 - Room 224, National Guard Armory - 600 Cedar
St. Paul, Minn. in the Capitol Approach Area

January 13 - What is legislating? - The role of Legislators

January 27 - What can the Legislature do? - The role of the Constitution

February 10 - How does the Legislature work? - The role of organization

February 24 - How does a bill become a law? - The role of floor procedure

March 10 - How does the Governor influence legislation? - The role of the
chief Legislator

March 24 - What interests shape laws? - The role of pressure groups

COME TO ALL SIX SESSIONS OR COME TO JUST ONE
Bring others interested in their government. No charge, of course

LOBBYING

Fewer problems here than in any other part of the Legislative job - for two reasons. First, the Board had been updated and had made decisions on support of likely legislation well in advance. Sufficient guidelines were drawn so that the Legislative Chairman felt sure of her ground when the need for evaluating different bills came later. The second reason for smooth sailing was the excellent lobbyists themselves. I had the utmost confidence in each one. They knew their subject matter, represented us well at the Legislature and did a wonderful job of reporting back to the members through the Capitol Letter, Observers Program reports and Convention reports.

Lobbyists were sought for each Program area and the two separate items which received special emphasis - Party Designation and New Resident Law. There was no problem at all in coordinating all these people since each one works independently anyway. Board members had to take over where lobbyists could not be found. I highly recommend using as many off-Board lobbyists as necessary to cover all Program items. In addition to the specific lobbying job, they tend to become subject matter specialists, every useful people to both state Board and local Leagues. As I recall, lobbyists spoke at local League meetings and briefing sessions, contributed information to newspapers and spoke on KUOM.

Action was of various types. Testifying also was done different ways depending on the situation. Formal statements were copied and sent out to local Leagues - a good policy. They must often wonder just what we're saying in their name. Some testimony, of course, is informal, especially when the lobbyist gets to be well known by the committee. She may be asked for information or "What does the League think about this?". For more formal hearings the President is an effective speaker. In one case (election laws) the lobbyist arranged for local League members to tell the committee how they handled a problem in their community.

Times for Action should be used whenever possible. In addition to being really effective pressure, the local Leagues are expecting to be - and need to be - part of the legislative action program. Again, each situation may call for a different approach. The Legislative Chairman should discuss each Call to Action with the President and Organization Chairman. Lacking both during most of the session, I relied on Irene Janski and Peggy Thompson for information on local Leagues, advice on wording, etc. What a comfort and help they were! In addition, Peggy's alert handling of the bills from Phillips Legislative Service really saved the day several times.

Asking support for our Program from other organizations was quite useless as far as direct support was concerned. It probably is good PR idea and with that in mind could be carried out by the President and Public Relations Chairman. An interesting sidelight of this effort was brought out by the letter we received from the Bar Assn. saying they could not support the New Resident Law. During the session their Executive Secretary promoted a version of the law on his own and muddled the waters considerably. The more I learn about other organizations, the more I respect League methods.

All of this has been written as advice based on my experience in the 1965 session. It probably sounds awfully arbitrary, but I'm sure only the useful parts will be followed and the rest rightfully ignored. There may be much better ways of meeting each of the demands of the Legislative Program - look for them.

1965 LOBBYISTS

Mrs. Steven Orey - Minneapolis - Liberty Amendment
Mrs. Walter Carpenter - Minneapolis - Constitutional Amendments
Mrs. Michael Richdorf - Minnetonka - New Resident Law, Ethics
Mrs. O. H. Anderson - Mahtomedi - Reapportionment
Mrs. Homer Mantis - St. Paul - Party Designation
Mrs. Charles Johnson - Minneapolis - Home Rule
Mrs. Harold Watson - St. Paul, State Board - Indians, Discrimination
Mrs. Mercer Cross - Minneapolis - Election Laws

U R G E N T

MEMO TO: Those Leagues whose legislators are on the Judiciary, Elections and Reapportionment Committees.
FROM: Mrs. William Whiting, President

Most of the legislation on our League Program will be handled by the Judiciary, Elections and Reapportionment Committees. A subscription to our Capitol Letter is one way of keeping these legislators informed on our Program and generally aware of our interests - good government.

We have checked our subscription lists and find many members of these important committees not now receiving Capitol Letter. If your legislator's name appears on the list below, please return the enclosed form with your check immediately and we will see that he is added to our subscription list. We have extra copies of the first issue so they will still be able to receive the complete series. If more than one League is involved in a district, get together to decide how it should be handled. Don't forget to send your legislator a note to tell him about Capitol Letter or tell him about it the next time you see him.

DISTRICT	LEGISLATOR	LEAGUE
2	McLeod	Winona
5	Holand, Mrs. McMillan	Austin
7	Kucera	Faribault
8	H. S. Nelson	Owatonna
9	R. Hansen	Albert Lea
10	Erdahl, Scott	Wells
11	C. A. Johnson	Mankato
13	Thuet, Klaus, Pavlak	South & West St. Paul
15	Kroehler	St. Peter
18	Franz, Mann	Jackson
22	Grussing	Granite Falls
23	Knudsen, W. F. Gustafson	Willmar
27	Hughes	St. Cloud
29	Swenson	Buffalo
30	Parish	Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal, Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park
31E	Yngve	Minnetonka
33	Bergerud	Edina, St. Louis Park
34-42	M. E. Hansen, Kalina, McCarty, Mosier, Ogdahl, Popham, Wright, H. J. Anderson, Thor Anderson, Flakne, French, Gearty, Latz, White, Wright	Minneapolis
41	Skeate	St. Anthony
43S-49	W. R. Anderson, Coleman, Novak, Parks, Beedle, Johnson, Lindahl, Wozniak	St. Paul
48N	Newcome	Maplewood, No. St. Paul, White Bear Lake
50	Albertson	Mahtomedi, St. Croix Valley
51	Holm, Nordin	Anoka, Col. Hgts., Fridley
53	Rosenmeier, Halsted	Brainerd
56	Dosland, R. N. Nelson	Moorhead
58	Frick, Renner	Cass Lake
62	Cina	Virginia
63	Perpich, Fena	Chisholm, Hibbing
64	McKee	Bemidji, International Falls
66	Maruska, Skaar	Crookston

TIME FOR ACTION

APPROPRIATIONS TO THE STATE COMMISSION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

The House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance Committee are now hearing presentations by the State Commission Against Discrimination as to their budget needs for 1965-67. This is a commission we are committed to support as a result of our consensus regarding anti-discrimination legislation. We believe that legislation is a necessary means of eliminating discrimination, but we also believe that commission enforcement of such laws with the procedural possibility of education and conciliation is more effective in insuring compliance in the future than an enforcement method which would merely punish an offender for a past act. This method, to be effective, may be more cumbersome and costly, but we believe that its educational function is essential.

STATE COMMISSION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION COMPARATIVE BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUESTS

	<u>Commission Request</u>	<u>Governor's Recommendation</u>	<u>Legislative Appropriation</u>
1957-59	\$ 92,615	.\$ 71,288	\$ 63,793.66
1959-61	96,194	70,487	66,534
1961-63	97,608	70,181	67,203
1963-65	193,460	128,580	103,861
1965-67	227,236	159,810	????

COMPARATIVE CASELOADS

	<u>Employment</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Total</u>
1956 thru 1961	186		
1962	19		19
1963	37	60	97
1964	55	86	141

As you can see from these figures, the amount of money given to SCAD has not increased as rapidly as their caseloads. This means that most of their time now is spent in processing complaints. It is one of the reasons why the strengthening amendment which aims at streamlining their procedures is also critical. From 1955 to 1963, the Fair Employment Practices Commission (now SCAD) received no budget increases except civil service merit increases for its employees. Not only is the agency receiving numerous housing complaints, but in the past two years the number of employment complaints has drastically increased. Because of budgetary limits for staff and travel, outstate areas have been relatively untouched, although these areas are not without problems. Limited funds during the past biennium meant that during the last half of 1964 the Commission as a whole was unable to meet. Commissioners live in each of the legislative districts, and there was no money to pay their travel expenses. A further complication in this session arises from the plan to merge the State Commission Against Discrimination and the Governor's Human Rights Commission.

Such a merger was suggested as a means of coordinating the activities of the two agencies. There has not actually been duplication of service. The merger plan, however, is in danger of being considered as an economy move. Words like "duplication," "overlapping" and "inefficiency" are creeping into discussions about combining the two agencies. We are fearful that this will be looked upon as a further excuse to economize in the area of civil rights.

We would appreciate your contacting your legislators at this time. It is particularly important if your legislators are members of the Appropriations or Finance Committees. Please let us know on the enclosed card the way in which your League responded to this Time for Action.

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Fitzsimmons, Chairman
Long, Vice Chairman
Anderson, J.T.
Anderson, T.
Barr
Battles
Burchett, Mrs.
Carlson
Farmer
Fischer

Flakne
Gimpl
Gustafson, W.F.
Hall
Iverson
Kirchner
Klaus
Mahowald
Mann
McLeod

O'Brien
Pavlak
Rutter
Searle
Skaar
Sommerdorf
Swanstrom
Volstad
Voxland

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Imm, Chairman
Child
Davies
Dosland
Dunlap
Grittner
Hanson, N.W.

Harren
Heuer
Josefson
Lofvegren
McGuire
McKee
Mitchell

Nelson, H.S.
Olson
Popp
Rosenmeier
Sinclair
Walz
Westin

STATEMENT OF MRS. STEVEN OREY
for the
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TAXES IN OPPOSITION TO H.F. 748, A RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO SUBMIT THE SO-CALLED "LIBERTY AMENDMENT" TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE STATES FOR RATIFICATION

^{only} Thank you for this opportunity to speak in behalf of the League of Women Voters not in Minnesota but also in the forty-nine other United States and the District of Columbia.

We oppose this resolution because we believe that the changes proposed would transform our United States Constitution, the world's oldest, living, written constitution, from a living, flexible document able to meet changing conditions into a rigid, inflexible one which would unwisely tie the hands of our duly elected representatives in areas of concern to the League of Women Voters and to all citizens. The changes proposed are far reaching and deserve your most careful consideration.

Section 1 of the proposed amendment which prohibits the United States government from engaging in "any business, professional, commercial, financial or industrial enterprise except as specified in the Constitution" would, according to proponents, restore to private enterprise over 700 federal agencies which compete without constitutional authority to do so.

We have several questions about this section. Are these activities in fact without constitutional authority as claimed by proponents? Would this section not impose a far reaching change in our Constitution both as originally conceived and as it has developed in its attempt to limit the means by which Congress can carry out powers delegated to it? The only business enterprise specifically mentioned in the United States Constitution is the post office and post roads and the coining of money. What are the 700 federal agencies whose activities will be abolished by the proposed amendment? No complete list has been available to the League of Women Voters. Without knowing what all of them are, it is difficult to determine whether they should be eliminated. A sample of the activities and agencies which the amendment's proponents claim would be abolished and imply have heretofore been carried on unconstitutionally includes:

the National Park Service, the Patent Office, the Social Security Administration, the School Lunch Program, the Veterans Administration, the Civil Aeronautics Administration, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Monetary Fund.

Do we want to eliminate all of these activities? Do they all in fact compete with private enterprise? Are some of them regulatory rather than profit making in character? Could the states take on the job of regulation in areas involving problems such as rivers, harbors and airlines, for example, which cross state lines and even national boundaries? And finally, if the federal government is involved in activities which compete with private enterprise, should reform be accomplished by such a general constitutional provision as this or by legislation selectively, and after a careful consideration of the facts for each activity?

Section 2 of the proposed amendment would seem to impose additional limitations to those already in the Constitution on the treaty making power of the United States. The League of Women Voters opposes such additional limitations as detrimental to the conduct of our foreign relations.

Section 3 of the proposed amendment provides for liquidation and sale of properties and facilities which violate the intent of the amendment within three years from the date of ratification.

The repeal of the income tax in section 4 of the proposed amendment presupposes that the revenue realized under this section will be sufficient to reduce the public debt by a large enough amount to make it unnecessary to raise revenue to pay interest and amortization on this debt. We have several questions about this. First, how can we even begin to estimate the amount to be realized on such a sale or even whether people will bid at all on many of the facilities? Does the history of the sale of government assets in fact warrant the assumption that anything like market value will be realized on such a sale? What will be the effect of the three year deadline on bidding? Might it not be profitable for bidders to wait till deadline time and then make very low bids? Who will bid for regulatory agencies like the Security and Exchange Commission or the Federal Reserve Bank, and how could the value of such agencies be determined? Further, can the large federal structure which has grown up over a long period be dismantled within a three year period in our highly complex economy without tremendous social and economic upheaval?

Section 4 of the proposed amendment proposes within three years after ratification to repeal the 16th amendment to the United States Constitution and bar Congress from levying taxes on "personal income, estates and/or gifts."

Over 50% of the revenue of the federal government is derived from taxation of the income of individuals and gift and estate taxes. In fiscal 1962-63, 28% of the tax dollar was derived from the tax on corporate incomes. While proponents of the amendment claim that the corporate income tax would not be repealed by it, the wording is unclear. It refers to "personal" incomes and corporations have been held to be "persons" within the meaning of the Constitution. Personal income and corporate income taxation together account for about 80% of federal tax revenue. How is this income spent? According to the Bureau of the Budget in 1962-63, 63 cents of every tax dollar went for national security (57¢ for national defense, 3¢ on space technology)* According to a study made by the staff of the Congressional Joint Economic Committee, to accomplish the expenditure reduction required by the proposed amendment would necessitate cutting the Defense Department budget by 50%, cutting the atomic energy expenditures to one-fifth of the 1962 fiscal level, and cessation of all work on peaceful applications of atomic energy and space exploration. In addition, the government would have to abandon numerous other activities including farm price supports, soil conservation, home mortgage insurance, domestic surplus food distribution to the needy, flood control and watershed activities, sharp curtailment of other activities such as medical research, grants to states for hospital construction and for vocational rehabilitation for disabled persons. Of course the tax structure would no longer be graduated; those with smaller incomes would assume larger tax burdens. A more complete analysis of the far reaching effect of section 4 of the proposed amendment can be found in Senate Document 5, based on the Joint Economic Committee study previously mentioned. Copies of Senate Document 5 (88th Congress, 2nd Session) are being distributed by the League to members of the House Tax Committee.

You who are legislators, whose responsibility it is to determine expenditures and revenues on a state level, can readily understand the problems you would face if you were constitutionally forbidden to levy a tax which heretofore had produced 80% of your tax revenue. It is the responsibility of citizens to be interested and concerned with the tax programs of this country and to keep a watchful eye on federal expenditures. It is the responsibility of legislators, our elected representatives, to evaluate needs and reforms in relation to current national needs for services and national security and current economic conditions. They can do this job best if unfettered by constitutional limitations on the power to tax incomes. Almost since the inception of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights has been considered the safeguard of citizens against incursions of arbitrary government power. We urge that we continue to rely on this time tested safeguard rather than a constitutional limitation on tax rates. *(and 3¢ for international assistance)

TIME FOR ACTION

NEW RESIDENT LAW

The bill which would make it possible for new state residents to vote for President and Vice President has been passed out of both the House and Senate Elections Committees. The bill should be heard on the floor of the House and the Senate early next week. Now is the time for you to contact your Senator and Representative and urge their support.

In the Senate the bill number is S.F. 879. The authors are Mel Hansen (C), McGuire (DFL) and McKnight (C).

The House bill is H.F. 949. The authors are Flakne (C), Bang (C), Wright (C), Schwarzkopf (C) and Mrs. McMillan (DFL).

An "official" letter, telegram or phone call from the local League president is vital - the more letters written by members and other interested persons, the better. A flood of letters from all parts of the state will be truly effective. All communications should be made before Wednesday, March 17, at the latest.

Complete background information can be found in the first three issues of Capitol Letter. As you read the history of this bill you will realize the tremendous investment of time and effort that has already been made. Now you, and only you, can build the support which will assure passage of this fine legislation.

TIME FOR ACTION

MANDATORY VOTER REGISTRATION LAW

TO: Leagues in Districts 30, 31, 48N, 43, 50, 51

The House Elections Committee has postponed hearing the bill (H.F. 173) which would extend mandatory voter registration to more municipalities within the metropolitan area. For a complete review, see page 4 of the last (Feb. 8) Capitol Letter.

Committee chairman, Gordon Wright, has written to municipal officials in this area asking for their opinions of the bill. Some of these officials are notifying the legislators of their opposition to H.F. 173. We feel that, no matter what is happening on the Senate side, it is very important for your Representative to know that your local League supports this bill.

If any of your members have had experience as election officials, their individual comments as to the need for registration would be excellent. H.F. 173 will be heard soon. Please contact your legislators as soon as possible.

If you want a list of the municipalities affected by this law, call lobbyist Mrs. Mercer Cross, Wa 7-5554.

Thanks for your help.

STATEMENT OF MRS. HAROLD WATSON
MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
of the
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE AND THE
SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE IN SUPPORT OF FULL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE STATE COMMISSION
AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota opposes discriminatory practices which deny to any citizen because of his race, religion or national origin the right to the employment for which he is suited or the housing he desires and can afford. We further believe that anti-discrimination laws are necessary to eliminate such discrimination, and that by providing legal recourse to one citizen who is denied such a right by another citizen, community tensions are relaxed and peaceful progress can be made toward that equality of opportunity which is the goal of our society.

Of 60 League of Women Voter organizations throughout the state, all supported the 1961 State Act Against Discrimination. While our support of anti-discrimination laws is strong, equally strong is our support of the commission method of enforcement. The 1959 Report of the Legislative Interim Commission on Housing Segregation and Discrimination Practices stated: "The commission method of enforcement is designed to give a law a sanction that will make it effective, but at the same time impose no harsh penalty. Those who run afoul of the law, wittingly or unwittingly, are afforded an opportunity, during confidential investigations and conferences, to explain their position or to show their good faith. During the process an agreement is usually reached which is satisfactory to both the person claiming discrimination and the person who allegedly discriminated. Persuading a person to comply with the law in the future is considered more important than punishment for past acts." Only one case to come before the commission since 1955 has reached the court.

Since education and persuasion are critical in correcting discriminatory practices, we do not want the commission's activities to be confined to receiving complaints and to meting out penalties or fines which can be looked on merely as a license to discriminate.

If we are interested in a commission which can change the climate of opinion in the specific instance where discrimination has occurred, and in the broader community so that discrimination is less likely to occur, we must provide the means to accomplish this task. From 1955 to 1963, the Fair Employment Practices Commission received no budget increases except civil service merit increases for its employees. They were given a sizeable increase in 1963, but the complaint load alone in 1963 increased by more than 450% over that of 1962. And in 1964 it was even higher. Most of the commission's activities have been limited to the metropolitan area. Because of budgetary limits for staff and travel, outstate areas have been relatively untouched, although these areas are not without problems. For one example, as a member of the Minnesota Indian Affairs Commission, I have observed growing tensions in communities on and near Indian reservations which, I believe, can become explosive. The commission needs to be able to initiate meaningful programs in those areas.

It is not enough for the State Commission Against Discrimination to receive complaints from those citizens already informed of this avenue to justice. To direct their protests in the channels most likely to reach a satisfactory solution, minority groups must be better informed of their rights under the law. This demands a positive educational program from the commission.

We urge you to recognize how imperative it is that the State Commission Against Discrimination carry out the duties which have been assigned to it by law, and that you provide it with the funds to make this possible.

STATEMENT BY MRS. O. J. JANSKI, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA, to the Senate Committee on Elections and Reapportionment, February 16, 1965 in behalf of the Party Designation bill, S.F. 271.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota is an organization composed of Leagues in 65 communities throughout the state -- large and small, rural and urban; from our northernmost League at International Falls to Worthington and Jackson in the south; Moorhead, Crookston, the Range towns, Silver Bay, Duluth and one of our newest Leagues in Winona -- all working to promote informed citizen participation in government.

The support of Party Designation for members of the Minnesota Legislature has been on the Program of the League of Women Voters since 1951 and is still there in 1965. The League's studies of government, and particularly the government of Minnesota, have led us to the sure knowledge that the political party is essential to the operation of a democracy. It is in the party that the citizen takes his first step toward personal involvement and participation in the political process. It is in this same party that he helps to nominate and elect public officials. He may even help to write the party platform through which he has a direct line to the Legislature. When the state Legislature, which determines whether or not the party's program becomes a reality, is elected without party designation, the whole pattern of responsible government is weakened. There is a lack of responsiveness and responsibility to the citizens.

We feel that the voter has a right, in fact has a duty, to know what a candidate stands for. Under our present set-up, the voter is more than likely to be confused. Why shouldn't he have the same opportunity to cast an informed ballot as voters in all the states except Minnesota and Nebraska?

Candidates for Governor in Minnesota run for office on a party basis. The electorate shows its support of the candidates' political party platform by electing him. Then he is expected to carry out the program he has pledged. When elected, the Governor frequently finds his program blocked to a standstill by legislators who do not commit themselves to a party platform. It seems to us that this method of operation makes a difficult job even more difficult.

In recent years there has been a growing trend for some legislators to emphasize party ties. In fact, both parties now endorse candidates for nonpartisan legislative offices. This means, of course, that these candidates enjoy the benefits of party designation -- financial support and publicity as well as political advice and guidance.

The League of Women Voters believes in the party system; we encourage and urge our members to work in the party of their choice. We believe that Minnesota should have a party designated legislature.

April 19, 1965

STATEMENT RELATING TO ANTI-DISCRIMINATION LEGISLATION
TO THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
BY MRS. WM. WHITING, PRESIDENT, LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

Since the drafting of its Constitution, the State of Minnesota has embodied in its laws its concern for insuring equal treatment for all its citizens. From our early days we have forbidden discrimination in voting, in holding public office, in public accommodations and in education. We have always recognized that whenever standards of conduct are established in the law, an important consequence is that legal recourse is provided to one citizen who is wronged by another, thus allowing for an orderly, peaceful resolution of differences.

The passage of the Fair Employment Practices Act in 1955 was historic in Minnesota, not for its intent to eliminate discrimination, for that had been our policy all along, but for establishing in our state the commission method of enforcement. This method provides for eliminating discriminatory practices by a particular individual through persuasion and conciliation before sanctions are applied and in the community at large through a broad education program. Six years of experience demonstrated the effectiveness of this method so that the 1961 Legislature assigned the fair housing law to the State Commission Against Discrimination for enforcement. It is our belief that this approach should also be used in other areas where discrimination exists - such as in access to public accommodations.

In 1955 and again in 1961 exemptions were included in our anti-discrimination laws. Like commission enforcement, this too was a departure from tradition. Some of these exceptions represent recognition by the legislature that there might be occasions where race, religion or national origin are bona fide qualifications - as in the case of requiring that an employee embrace a particular religion for a certain job in a religious institution. Other exemptions are more difficult to justify and may reflect legislators' evaluation of public opinion. If this is the case, you will be interested to know that the 1961 State Action Against Discrimination was studied by League of Women Voters organizations in some sixty different communities throughout the state. After this study there was general member agreement in support of this law. We believe if exemptions are maintained, the burden of justification for these exemptions rests upon the legislature.

Finally, we would like to see enforcement procedures tightened. It may be difficult for a complainant to feel that he had the protection of the law when the house he wanted has been sold to someone else or the job he applied for has been filled during the period in which his complaint was being heard. While we would like to see stronger measures adopted to prevent this possibility - such as granting SCAD the power to issue orders which are binding unless reversed or modified by a court of law or to hold a job or piece of property for a reasonable period of time during investigation - we urge the passage of the proposed procedural changes which can shorten the time involved in processing a complaint.

April 20, 1965

STATEMENT OF MRS. ROY LETOURNEAU
for the
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

IN OPPOSITION TO H.F. 194, H.F. 141 AND H.F. 364, ALL REQUIRING THE LABELING OF
IMPORTED MEATS

Thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota and in opposition to the meat labeling bills under consideration.

Since 1936 when it first supported the Reciprocal Trade Act, the League of Women Voters of the United States has believed that a liberal United States trade policy best serves the political and economic interests of this country and of its citizens. Such a policy paves the way for political harmony with other countries, stimulates economic growth at home and abroad and expands the opportunities for consumer choice among a wide variety of products. The League supports a flexible and effective policy based on the public interest rather than a special or sectional interest.

In Congress the positions of the League of Women Voters on foreign economic policy are well known. League members often testify in support of liberal trade policies or against restrictive trade practices. In state legislatures these national positions of the League are not as familiar because laws are not often proposed which would thwart national trade policies. This is particularly true in Minnesota, a large exporting state, which has its own interest, as well as that of the nation, at stake in favoring open trade channels.

Implicit in the League's support of liberal trade is opposition to measures which impede trade. The meat labeling bills under consideration here tonight are a form of protectionism and a means whereby our country's liberal trade policies are "nibbled away piece by piece." Our national government has already enacted agreements and safeguards with meat exporting countries to protect our interests.

It has been determined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture that problems of oversupply have been primarily of home origin and only to a small degree the result of imports. Meat production in this country has risen considerably in the past few years. As a result, beef exporting has become a new development and an encouraging one which would not flourish if protectionism is maintained or expanded. Restrictions, such as those implicit in the meat labeling bills, on one imported product invite retaliation and trade barriers to be erected against these and others which we export such as soybeans or manufactured products. Therefore, to adopt restrictive measures by state action does not appear to be either in the best interests of this country or Minnesota. We hope this committee will concur.

TIME FOR ACTION

ON

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION LEGISLATION

Five bills are now being considered by Houses of the Legislature.

1. S.F. 1269 - H.F. 1405
Public Accommodations
2. S.F. 1330 - H.F. 1391
Employment
3. S.F. 1492 - H.F. 1603
Enforcement Procedures
4. S.F. 1294 - H.F. 1407
Housing
5. S.F. 1310 - H.F. 1432
Non-discrimination requirements of agents licensed by the State.

Please read the April 26, 1965 Capitol Letter for a description of the contents of these bills and the Legislative Outlook for our position.

In the House of Representatives, a sub-committee of the Civil Administration Committee was named on April 29 to evaluate these bills. The sub-committee members are Representatives French, Chairman, McGowan, Dunn, Graw & Blomquist.

In the Senate, three bills are already out of the Judiciary Committee with recommendations to pass those relating to housing, employment and public accommodations. A procedural bill and the licensing bill will be heard May 3.

As a League, we are able to support bills 1, 2 & 3. We have no position on the other two; therefore, neither support or oppose.

Please write your legislators urging passage of the bills officially favored. You may want to inform your membership of the status of all five bills so they can take action as individuals, not as official representatives of the L.W.V. on 4 & 5.

We will appreciate your returning the enclosed card to the state office with a description of your response to this Time for Action.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON PARTY DESIGNATION

1. Have Minnesota legislators always been elected on a nonpartisan basis?

In 1913 the nonpartisan label was attached to those who held office as judges, county officials and officials of cities of the first and second class as well as members of the legislature. In a newspaper "Letter to the Editor" column, one Minnesotan questions the validity of the law since Article IV, Sec. 27 of the Minnesota Constitution says "No law shall embrace more than one subject which shall be expressed in its title." No one has tried to test the constitutionality of this law and it has been in effect since 1913. The nonpartisanship of legislators was added to the bill in the senate in an attempt to kill the House-sponsored bill.

2. How does the legislature organize itself under this nonpartisan basis?

Contrary to the belief of some Minnesotans the nonpartisan feature of our legislature does not mean that their representative will operate in the legislature as an Independent. The legislature is organized into two caucuses--Conservative and Liberal with the faction which has the majority filling the chairmanships and vice chairmanships of all standing committees as well as appointing a controlling number of members of the committee. An "independent" may be able to swing back and forth between the two groups but it is easy to see that he would have difficulty exerting much influence. While there is not a "party whip" or steering committee to control or influence the progress of legislation, the power is exerted by certain committee heads (see Jan-Feb 1964 issue of MINNESOTA VOTER for more information on committee structure). The independence that is exercised in this nonpartisan system is very often independence of responsibility to the voter.

3. What is the role of the political party in Minnesota?

Political parties are the means for the orderly exercise and change of power in all societies where citizens govern themselves. In all states the parties recruit candidates for office; help voters nominate and elect public officials; give candidates support (financial and otherwise) during campaigns; formulate and publicize government issues through platform-making; provide framework for legislative organization; follow candidates in the performance of their legislative and administrative duties; advise elected officials through lobbying; help to coordinate legislative and executive activities and the two legislative branches and very importantly, when not in power, act as the loyal opposition thereby keeping those in power alert. Many of these functions are either impossible or very difficult in Minnesota where the executive branch is elected on a party ticket and the legislators on a nonpartisan one. In recent years there has been a growing trend for some legislators to emphasize party ties. The Liberal caucus agreed several years ago to call itself the DFL caucus and in recent elections candidates in nearly every legislative group have been DFL endorsed. Both parties now lend endorsement to candidates for nonpartisan legislative offices and offer financial support. This support does not always mean that the candidate supports the party platform or will support party designation.

4. How does this nonpartisanship affect the relationship of the executive and legislative bodies?

The answer to this question can be quickly answered using the words of a candidate in his reply concerning party designation on a candidates questionnaire, "In 1961, the Republicans (actually not Republican but Conservative caucus-ed. note) in the state Senate killed 70% of the bills advocated by a Republican chief executive." Changes in public thinking may be reflected by the electorate's

4. Continued

voting into office such men as Floyd Olson during the 30's and Luther Youngdahl in the 40's, but men like these have difficulty carrying out the reforms that they have promised when they must work with legislators who say they owe no allegiance to the parties.

5. Who wants party designation?

Both state political parties have carried party designation as a part of their platform plank since the 1930's. This support is very important, for without strong support from within the parties the chances of passing party designation are not good. Organized labor has supported it since 1927; in 1950 the Minnesota Cooperative joined the group; and since 1951 the League of Women Voters has studied and worked for it, starting with the 1953 legislative session. Various newspapers have supported party designation for years and have written favorable editorials. Among these are THE MINNEAPOLIS STAR AND TRIBUNE, RED WING REPUBLICAN EAGLE, FERGUS FALLS DAILY JOURNAL, and WORTHINGTON GLOBE. George Rice has often used this as a subject for his editorial comment on TV. Political scientists have for many years considered this one of the most important governmental reforms for Minnesota. A recent letter from the National Municipal League to the state Board of the LWV expressed satisfaction that we were continuing our work in this field. Many legislators have expressed publicly support for this measure (even some who do not vote for it). The results of the Minnesota Poll dealing with party designation have shown some fluctuation in past years with the smallest percentage (40% in 1958) answering that they were in favor of party labels for legislators. The most recent poll, as published in April 1964 shows 54% who feel that it is better for the state to have legislators identified by party.

6. Why does the League favor party designation?

The LWV believes that political parties are essential to the operation of a democratic society in two ways, 1) by providing the election machinery through which the citizen nominates, then elects public officials, and 2) by providing the party platform through which the citizen communicates his wishes to those who carry out his laws. We feel that the voter has a right and in fact has a duty to know what the candidate stands for. While parties must consider the needs of the state as a whole, under the present system, individual legislators have tended to feel their primary responsibilities are to the particular constituents that elected them, whether individual citizens or special interest groups.

7. Are we any closer to our goal of achieving party designation for legislators?

There are many who feel that if a party designation bill were to be brought on to the floor of either house that it would pass. In the Senate, even though there have been bills in committee for many sessions none has ever been reported out of committee. The committees that consider these bills are usually filled with opponents of party designation. In 1957 a bill not only was reported out of committee in the House (13-2) but passed the House 95-32. It is hard to tell what the factor of the growing involvement with parties by the nonpartisan candidates will mean to the popularity of party designation with the legislature.

8. What is the history of nonpartisanship in Nebraska, the only other state that shares our anonymity for legislators?

Nebraska adopted nonpartisanship for legislators in 1934. Nebraska has long been a strongly "one-party" state and those that wanted to make the legislative offices nonpartisan felt they needed the support of George Norris, one of the leaders of the Progressive movement that was strong in this part of the country

8. Continued

in the 30's. Norris favored the unicameral form of legislature and in order to get his support for the nonpartisan factor Nebraska became the only state to have a one body legislature and shares honors with Minnesota as the only other state to have a nonpartisan legislature. The Federation of Republican Women's Clubs in Nebraska has been trying to get a ballot issue to decide the fate of nonpartisanship.

9. What can the citizen do to help achieve party designation in Minnesota?

There are many things that you as League members as well as other citizens can do. The first thing to do is to become active in a political party (that is, all but League leaders). Through the parties you can work to secure candidates and help to elect those who not only believe in party designation but will commit themselves to work for the necessary legislation. At the same time you should be working to develop additional community support. Some of the old standbys for accomplishing this are writing letters to the editors of newspapers, writing legislators, seeing that your local newspapers receive information on a current basis, distributing fact sheets in your community. A local citizens committee composed of people from other organizations could be formed to publicize interest in party designation so that legislators cannot say that the average citizen has no interest in this measure.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS CONCERNING PROVISION TO ALLOW NEW
STATE RESIDENTS TO VOTE FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

1. What precipitated the need for such a law?

After the 1960 election it was estimated that approximately 8 million people were disenfranchised by moving from one state to another. Figures from the Bureau of the Census over the past fifteen years show that 19 - 21.2% of our population moves annually involving change in precinct, county or state residence. It is estimated that 16% of this number moved from one state to another. Another study shows that of the five regions of the country (northeast, north, central, south and west) the south showed the highest rate of mobility with two million persons moving in or out from April, 1961-April, 1962. This problem has been a matter of concern to state officials and some attempts have been made to correct the situation in a few states prior to 1960. Our neighboring state of Wisconsin adopted legislation as early as 1953. California adopted this reform as a constitutional amendment in 1958 and in 1960 presidential election, 11,635 of the 6,506,578 votes cast in California were those of new residents voting under this new law. In Ohio, 8,648 new resident votes were cast in the 1960 election.

2. Should this involve a change in Federal or State law?

While the Federal Constitution does leave to the states the right to establish qualifications for voting there are those who feel that the adoption of the 13th, 14th, 15th and 19th amendments brought the Federal government more clearly into the electoral picture. Congress is given, not only the power to enforce amendments, but the duty to enforce them. Senator Keating and the late Senator Kefauver introduced a proposed Senate Resolution (#37) to the Judiciary Committee on Feb. 5, 1963 that would amend the Federal Constitution if ratified by 3/4 of the states within 7 years of the date of its submission to Congress. It would provide that a new resident who has resided 90 days in any state be qualified to vote before meeting that state's residence requirement, if he was eligible to vote previous to his change in residence or would have become eligible if he had continued to reside there until the election. The Constitutional Amendment Committee is currently concerned with the question of an amendment to outline presidential succession and it is doubtful that this subject will come up soon. Members of the President's Commission on Registration and Voting held varying views on this question. Commissioner Brendan Byrne, Executive Director of the American Heritage Foundation, suggested that an amendment be made to the Federal Constitution. Commissioner Robert Forsythe, State Chairman of the Minnesota Republican Party, disagreed, stating that, "Presidential elections are primarily under state control because the composition of the electoral college is a matter for state determination."

3. If this is a state problem, have other states solved it, and in what ways?

Practices followed by other states in this election law reform are pertinent to Minnesota as some uniformity among the states is necessary to ensure equal treatment of all voters. In 1958, an amendment to the state constitution in California passed by a small vote to permit voting for presidential electors by newcomers to the state who meet all but the residence requirements. In November, 1962, an amendment to the state constitution passed in Colorado with bi-partisan support. In Kansas in that same year a constitutional amendment was also passed. In 1957, the Ohio legislature passed a joint resolution proposing to amend the constitution to allow a new resident to vote for presidential electors without fulfilling Ohio's one year residence requirement; this

ballot amendment was approved by the voters in 1959. Missouri first passed a special election law in 1959 to provide for the new resident. In all of these states this item was on the State Program of the League of Women Voters and they were involved in publicizing the amendments or laws. Oregon, Connecticut, Idaho, Nebraska, Maine, Massachusetts and Illinois have passed statutes that will be in effect for the first time in the 1964 elections. New Jersey has passed a constitutional amendment but enabling legislation has not been enacted. The Wisconsin constitution contains a provision allowing the legislature to extend suffrage to persons not mentioned in it if the question is submitted to the people. On this basis a statute allowing new residents to vote was ratified by popular referendum in November of 1954. Arizona amended its constitution in 1962 with accompanying enabling legislation provided for. In Louisiana, a bill was introduced in the House in 1963 but failed to pass. Constitutional amendments to shorten these residence requirements were voted on in North Carolina and Washington in 1962 but did not pass. In summary, the following states have adopted legislation allowing new residents to vote: California, Colorado, Kansas, Ohio, Missouri, Oregon, Connecticut, Idaho, Nebraska, Maine, Massachusetts, Illinois, and Arizona. Arizona, Connecticut, Maryland, New Jersey, Vermont, Wisconsin, and Wyoming permit absentee voting by former residents who have not yet met the residence requirements in their new states.

4. What constitutes a good law to provide new residents with voting privileges? Are there set standards?

The National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws was organized in 1892. It is composed of one to five commissioners from each state, usually appointed by the governor. These commissioners meet to promote uniformity in state laws in cases where this seems desirable and to draft model laws. The Uniform Act for Voting by New Residents in Presidential Elections would eliminate residence requirements so that new resident voters would be allowed to vote if they were otherwise qualified by filing an application to vote in ample time to enable election officials to process the application and to take safeguards against fraudulent and double voting. This act consists of seventeen sections which describe such things as eligibility, how applicant should make application, disposal of the special ballot on which he votes, and other administrative details important to the election officials. This Uniform Act has been studied and approved by the American Bar Association (as of Oct. 11, 1962). Copies of this model law and others are sent to the states for their study and consideration. The Uniform Law was the one used as a model for the provisions adopted in Connecticut, Idaho, Kansas, Maine and Nebraska.

5. What residence requirements are specified by states having these laws providing voting privileges?

Alabama has the most rigid residence requirements for voting with a two year residence requirement in the state; this is reduced for new residents voting in presidential elections to one year in state, 6 months in county and 3 months in district. Other states have one year or less requirement. Arizona, Maine, Nebraska, Ohio, Oregon and Wisconsin do not have a residence requirement for new residents voting in presidential election; California set 54 days; Colorado, 6 months; Connecticut, 60 days in state and town; Idaho, Illinois, and Missouri, 60 days; Kansas, 45 days in ward or township; New Jersey, 40 days in state and county. To compare this to Minnesota regulations, we have no provision for new residents but any resident who has lived in the state 6 months may vote in state and presidential elections. In drafting the Uniform Act, the National Conference of Commissioners of Uniform Election Laws, recommended that the time limit be specified by the individual states, taking into consideration the time required by election officials to process the application. This would vary from state to state depending on the type of affidavit required of the applicant and other regulations. While the several states mentioned above do not state a length of

5. Continued

residence required in the state, several of those do require a certificate of qualification from former state which would require some time to obtain under their provisions.

6. Is a certificate of eligibility to vote in former state required of new residents in those states having special voting requirements for these residents voting in presidential elections?

In several of the states (Mass., Wisconsin, Arizona, and Illinois) a new resident makes application for a ballot in the presidential election; the county auditor then forwards to the applicant's former election clerk a request for proof of the applicant's eligibility to vote in the former state. When this proof is received, applicant is notified of eligibility to vote in the new state. California and Ohio follow the same procedure with the applicant taking care of the request for proof of eligibility with former state using form provided by the county auditor and returning it to him. In other states, the applicant signs an affidavit stating that he has not and will not vote except on the special ballot for which he has applied and that he meets all other voting qualifications of the new state except those of residence. The states having this type of requirement are: Kansas, New Jersey, Nebraska, Idaho, Connecticut, Colorado, Missouri, Maine and Oregon.

7. Does this election law reform require an amendment to state constitutions or may it be accomplished by statute?

A Special Committee of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws has stated that, "under Section 1 of Article 2 of the Federal Constitution, the appointment of presidential electors can be exercised by state legislatures without regard to state constitutional provisions specifying requirements for voting." Some states specifically mention presidential elections and requirements in their constitutions. Minnesota does not, but does specify the residence requirements in general terms. There has been some concern in states having general constitutional residence requirements for voting that a constitutional amendment would be required to liberalize these provisions in presidential elections. According to a Memorandum on the subject prepared by Judge Harry Lugg of Connecticut, member of the Special Committee, court rulings on this subject through the years would indicate that changes in residence requirements for Federal elections held in the states can be made by statute without amending state constitutions.

8. What provisions are included in these laws as safeguards against fraudulent voting by new residents?

The Uniform Act would require the applicant to apply to the appropriate election official in person and at that time to sign an affidavit stating how long he has been in the state, that he is a citizen of the United States, and that he will not vote otherwise than by the ballot he is applying for. The election official then sends a copy to former state indicating that resident will be voting in the new state. The special ballot, when marked by the voter, is sealed in an envelope and delivered to the appropriate election official, in a procedure similar to that used for absentee ballots in Minnesota. There is a provision for a challenge of new resident votes and penalties for illegal voting are described. Provisions to prevent fraud in voting under this election law in those states where it is in effect are very similar to the uniform law with minor deviations.

9. Has legislation dealing with this subject been proposed previously in the Minnesota legislature?

9. Continued

In the 1963 session HF 483 was introduced by Douglas Head, D. W. Wozniak, H. J. Anderson, Gordon Wright and J. P. Graw. This bill would allow new residents to vote before meeting the state residence requirements in presidential elections by making application for a ballot to the county auditor not less than 20 days prior to the election. The county auditor then requests proof of the applicant's eligibility to vote in former state from the election official of that state. This bill also outlined penalties prescribed for fraudulent voting under the act. The same session, with Representative Head as chief author, two other measures were introduced. HF 484 would have amended the constitution to provide constitutional authority for HF 483. HF 596 was introduced, but did not have committee hearing. This bill would provide for absentee voting in a presidential election for those moving from the state who would not meet the necessary residence requirements in the new state. Both HF 483 and HF 484 were heard in the House Elections and Reapportionment Committee but were not reported out.

10. Is there any opposition to this type of legislation in Minnesota?

Opposition to these measures seemed to center primarily around the requirement of certification from former state which could disenfranchise voters who would be subject to the reply of former election officials. The Minnesota-Dakota Conference of the N.A.A.C.P. formally objected to this legislation as it would not allow, in many cases, Negroes from the south, moving here, to become qualified voters under this provision. The Governor's Human Rights Commission also opposed legislation requiring former eligibility to vote.

11. What was the recommendation of the President's Commission on Registration and Voting with regard to voting privileges for new residents?

The Commission stated in their report under Standard V, that "No American should be deprived of the right to vote for President and Vice President because he changed his address before the election and did not have time to meet State residence requirements." They further suggested that if all states allowed presidential voting by new residents it would be unnecessary to allow absentee voting of former residents as is done in seven states now. A further suggestion was that states could help by agreeing to a reciprocal basis to eliminate the fee connected with certification of former voters thereby imposing a simulated poll tax on these new residents. The requirements of nine states having a new resident voting law do not require this certification from former state, but it is required in six states.

