



League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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LEGISLATIVE KIT

used at Legislative School 1948

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
INTERNATIONAL TRADE CONFERENCE — 1947

Name

Address

Local League State

League position

Registration \$1.00

November 20, 1947

THE FUTURE OF HOUSING IN MINNESOTA UNDER THE HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT ACT

"Wanted: Young Women To Lick The Housing Crisis" is the title of a fine article on Housing in the Autumn, 1947 issue of "Living" magazine. The August, 1947 issue of "Fortune" pointed up again "the housing crisis". We have not licked it. We've not even made a dent in it. Yes, houses are being built, but not enough of them, and certainly not at prices the middle and lower-income groups can safely mortgage their next 25 years to try to pay for. The tremendous numbers of families who need rental housing are being almost totally ignored. The lowest income groups, those for whom low-rent public housing is desirable and needed, have been ignored since 1942 because of statutory building cost limitations. These problems all boil down to one thing, the need of housing leadership, which in turn means education for slum clearance and low-rent housing and a community approach to the problem. It means a community approach because no two towns or cities have the identical needs. No two need the identical replanning, or even need the same proportionate number of rental units to owner occupied units. Therefore, if we are to lick the problem, we must begin at home, and then tell our needs to our State Legislature and our Congress.

For several sessions of the Legislature, the Minnesota League of Women Voters worked as "Housers". This time we made the grade. We did not get a perfect law, but we did get one under which some housing can be built, with a community approach, and one under which we can plan for future slum clearance and for low-rent public housing in communities that need and want it. Operations and experience under this law should indicate the kinds of amendments or revisions that will be required when the Legislature meets again.

The Minnesota law was drawn with a two-fold purpose: (1) To enable our cities to qualify for any Federal aid to housing that might be available in the future and (2) To encourage private capital to go in to housing and redevelopment in blighted areas in our cities by giving various kinds of financial and other aids. As a consequence, the Minnesota Act is usually described as divided into two main parts--the low-rent public housing part and the redevelopment and slum clearance section.

Both of these purposes can best be served by each city's and each town's having a housing and redevelopment authority. The housing authority's job of administering both parts of the law is a big one. They will need help.

First, we will discuss low-rent public housing and its problems. Minnesota was the 43rd state to pass this kind of legislation. In 1937, the United States Congress passed a law making available funds to the various states with this type of permissive legislation to aid in building dwellings for persons of low income. Since 1942, there has been no low rent public housing built in any city in the country, first because of the war and second, because under the 1937 Federal Housing law, there are limits to what can be spent per room in this type of building. In the last session of Congress the McCarthy Bill was passed allowing cities that are able to do so to contribute to a local housing authority the difference between the Federal statutory cost limitation and the actual cost of building.

Our problems in Minnesota on low-rent public housing are these:
(1) Those people who are opposed to low-rent public housing for persons of low income amended the housing bill to exclude from the cities the right to give money to the housing authority;(2) These same people also amended the law to require a simple majority referendum on each 1,000 units we might wish to build;(3) Because there are not now any Federal funds available for such building, we must look to the future when Congress may again appropriate funds, and we must make plans for using such funds to best advantage.

Last year Congress considered the Taft-Ellender-Wagner Bill ("Our Housing Problem", National League Memorandum, reviews it). In a recent speech Senator Taft again said he would be interested in a minimum housing program designed only for the low-income groups. At the present, Congress has a Joint Committee investigating "housing". It is hoped this investigation may come up with something that will help get Federal funds appropriated.

Because we must, in this state, have a referendum in each community before we can do any low-rent public housing, it is important for us to begin creating the "Housing Atmosphere", looking to the future. The objections to low-rent public housing are very loud and strongly defended by opponents to it. Always the objections are the same: (1) Private enterprise can do the housing job if left alone and without any kind of government guidance, (2) We are making a big step toward socialization when the Federal government subsidizes housing in any way, (3) Large-scale housing projects in the past have never served the income group they were intended to serve, and (4) Low-rent public housing is tax-exempt. These objections can best be answered in this way: (1) Private enterprise has not yet demonstrated it can build decent, safe and sanitary housing at a profit to be rented to the lowest 20% income group of our population. This is a truth that careful thinking real estate men don't work hard to refute. (2) As good League members, we all know about subsidies. They have in the past been given to both big and little industry in various forms without terribly strenuous objection, (3) Under the Minnesota Housing Act, the following provisions for occupancy in any low-rent public housing project are very clearly described:

- a. There must be a 20% gap between the highest rent charged in any low-rent public housing unit and the lowest rent private enterprise can build and rent at a profit.
- b. Low-rent housing must be built to serve the lowest 20% of income group by number as determined by the housing authority.
- c. Four-year limit of occupancy except in emergency when it may be six years.
- d. Veterans preference and preference for people living on the site before it was cleared of its slum and redeveloped.
- e. Tenant must be investigated every year to prove his income is not above lowest 20% by number.
- f. Tenant must be citizen of the United States.

(4) All of these provisions for tenancy are put on top of the requirement that the low-rent housing project must be able to pay off its bonds and pay to the city at least 5% of its annual intake of shelter rental in lieu of taxes.

This is the law in Minnesota and this is how it will be, all hue and cry to the contrary. These are the things we need to know.

The second part of our discussion is concerned with our part of the law under which we can now, at the present time, be doing some sound permanent building in Minnesota. We were the 18th state to have this kind of legislation.

As Mr. Stuart Rothman, the State Director of Housing, has said, our cities can use any kind of housing we can get; what we get depends on what we want and how much we want it. Both the Federal Housing Act of 1937 and the Minnesota Housing Act of 1947 recognize that housing requires local initiation, determination and promotion.

We must also recognize that the building and housing problem must be met by private capital and private enterprise. As we recognized earlier, private enterprise has not demonstrated it can do the entire job, but it can and must do even more than the "lion's share". Our job is to urge private capital into the market and to do the job in a civic-minded kind of way.

As has been stated twice previously, no two towns or cities have the identical problems. Therefore, it follows no two communities can approach their redevelopment in precisely the same fashion. For those reasons, it is not feasible to discuss redevelopment in a specific way. Our law provides tools for each municipality to use in any combination it so deserves. The tools were given us because redevelopment of our cities without municipal aid to private capital is almost impossibly expensive. It puts the builder who would like to construct in an unfair competitive position with the builder who goes outside the city to buy his land, and to develop raw land unrelated to public services and facilities. Until we redevelop our cities and towns, our population will continue to deploy itself farther and farther out, our slum problem and all its unpleasant results will continue to grow, and the cities' tax problems will continue to increase.

The keystone of our redevelopment plan in Minnesota is the use of municipal property, services and facilities as the equity for F.H.A. insured loans to finance housing. Because no municipality can give money to a housing authority, the use of these facilities is imperative. As, for instance, we could imagine a builder in one of our major cities contemplating a large-scale rental project—say 250 units. By getting partial tax exemption from his city, by having the site and its improvement a part of what the city can give as an aid, the rental needed to make the project an economically sound one can be appreciably lowered. This does not sound as tremendous as it really is. The need for rental units in the major cities is acute. It is certain in St. Paul where 5000 additional units of any kind of housing are needed, that an appreciable part of these units need be rental, and for moderate income groups. If by the use of partial tax exemption and site provision and improvement our municipalities can help to provide rental housing, our Minnesota law was well worth the effort it took to get it.

WHAT CAN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS DO?

We can:

- (1) Ask for and get each municipality to appoint a housing authority. Go to your Mayor and ask him. Then tell him to write to the Division of Housing and Redevelopment at the State Capitol which will send him all the information he needs. Ask the Mayor of

the municipality to appoint to the housing authority representative, broad-minded people with perspective and business judgment.

(2) Upon creation of the housing and redevelopment authority, the League of Women Voters can help to develop the kind of housing and community atmosphere that will encourage the housing authority to:

- a. Proceed to prepare application to apply to the Housing and Home Financing Agency for Federal aid for low-rent housing and pave the way for a successful local referendum on the problem.
- b. Proceed at once to encourage private capital to undertake redevelopment projects of moderate rental housing with municipal aids.
- c. Proceed to give immediate consideration to long-range slum clearance programs.
- d. Begin to think now of planning for a handsome and healthy community as a whole.

All of these things should always be considered on a sound permanent basis. It has been proved too many times that expedient measures such as any kind of temporary housing only eventually add more slums and do nothing but stave off the crisis for another short period in the history of any community. Too often the temporary or expedient housing of today turns into the slum of tomorrow.

It is a big job, but it can all be done if we want to do it!

The State Division of Housing and Redevelopment has prepared careful and detailed outlines of the parts the municipalities, the housing authorities, and the redevelopment companies can play in this housing crisis. These outlines are available to all communities at their request. Ask your Mayor to send for them.

Perhaps the best attitude for us all to have is to know that the program the League of Women Voters has so long supported will take a long time. Slum Clearance in our cities and relocation - or low-rent public housing - will take more than a few years. But we should not lose interest - rather should we continue to believe that decent, safe, and sanitary housing for all income groups is in the best interest of us all and continue to press for legislation at all levels of our government that will eventually produce the needed housing.

League of Women Voters of Minneapolis
84 S. 10th St., Room 407

1-8-48

Legislative Research Council

The Legislative Research Committee (LRC) is a joint committee of the legislature, meeting quarterly at the State Capitol and giving advance consideration to problems expected to confront the next legislature. Its Research Department is organized to provide an unbiased, factual source of information with regard to problems which may be acted upon by the legislature. This Committee was established by the 1947 Legislature.

Committee members who will serve until the opening day of the 1949 Legislature are:

<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>	
A.L. Almen	Everett L. Peterson	Claude H. Allen	George A. French
Claude G. Baughman	Herbert Rogers	A. L. Boze	Lawrence F. Haeg
Frank E. Dougherty	A. C. Sletvold	E. J. Chilgren	John A. Hartle
Daniel S. Feidt	Thomas P. Welch	Joseph J. Daun	Walter Rogoshesko
Archie H. Miller		Floyd O. Flom	

Research Staff: The research director is Louis C. Dorweiler, Jr., previously Asst. Director of the Minnesota Institute of Governmental Research, and a graduate of the U. of Minn. School of Business. At present he has two research analysts, Mr. Eugene J. Johnson and Mr. E.W. Andrews, both graduates of the Public Administration Training Center of the U. of Minn., and a secretary, Miss Mildred Rice.

Highlights on the Organizational Set-Up and Permanent Rules of the Committee:

1. The Committee meets the 1st Monday of the months of Feb., May, Aug., and Nov. at 10 A.M. in Room 113 State Capitol Bldg. Meetings are open to the public.
2. An Executive Committee (at present made up of Messrs. Haeg, Chairman; Welch, Vice-Chairman; Sletvold; Miller, Daun; and Allen) consider suggestions not in form of proposals made to Committee and supervise budget and financial matters. The Director of Research acts as Secretary.
3. There are in addition ten standing sub-committees, made up of 3 members of the L.R.C. plus one House and one Senate member (usually Chmn. of like committees in their respective bodies).
4. Proposals for study may be in the form of resolutions by the legislature (which have first priority), or of a request by individual legislators. Any private citizen or group wishing to make a request must do so through their respective legislators. The majority of the entire Committee must vote to refer to proper sub-committee for study, and the sub-committee must make a progress report at the next meeting.
5. Reports of each regular or special meeting must be printed by the Director of Research immediately after each meeting and mailed to each member of the legislature.
6. The sub-committee reports on proposals for study submitted to them must be approved by a majority of the full Committee before being released to the Legislators, the Governor, and the public.
7. Purchasing and employment - the Research Director acts as purchasing agent, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. He likewise is authorized to employ his research and clerical staff, subject to the same approval.

Progress to date:

Proposals so far submitted to the L.R.C., approved for study by the Committee, and referred to proper sub-committees are very briefly the following:

1. A proposal relating to a study of the entire public transportation problem, with relation to taxes, subsidies, effect of the industry upon employment, and regulatory laws.
2. A proposal relating to the control and elimination of Bang's disease in cattle.
3. A proposal relating to consolidating the Drivers' License Department and other departments having to do with motor vehicles, and methods of determining and collecting taxes on vehicles.
4. A proposal relating to building control and the feasibility of establishing an integrated state building agency with a view to modernizing local building codes and encouraging the use of new processes and materials.
5. A proposal to study the class room and building needs at the U. of Minn. and all other institutions of higher learning supported by state or public funds.
6. A proposal relating to activities incident to the rebuilding of the State Hospital at Rochester and the program of rebuilding other state institutions.
7. A proposal relating to the general tax structure of the state, comparison with other states, and with reference to effect of taxes on agriculture, industry, etc.
8. A proposal to study the Minneapolis School Situation (not approved for study).
9. A proposal to study community property for Minnesota as it relates to taxation.
10. A proposal relating to the propriety of imposing a tax on natural gas coming into the state.
11. A proposal to study present methods of imposing a tax on coal coming into state.
12. A proposal to study Civil Service laws as related to veterans' preference.
13. A proposal to study the progress made in school district reorganization as provided by the 1947 legislature.
14. A proposal to study various aspects of the conservation of our natural resources.

Already the study on Bang's disease has been completed, and the sub-committee supervising this work has published an excellent and most detailed report (available in Hols. League Office). Progress has been reported on the other nine of the first seven proposals, which were all requested by the resolution of the legislature. The report on No. 6, relating to public institutions is already quite complete, others varying considerably in amount of work done.

The Committee is acquiring reference material for its library, which will also be available for use by legislators.

Mr. Dorweiler and Chmn. Haag have visited three other states having Legislative Research Committees and have published a report of their findings. Likewise, three members of the Committee and Mr. Dorweiler attended the Midwest Regional Conference of the Council of States in Michigan last July and reported on the discussions there, which centered about such subjects as tax and fiscal policies, elementary and secondary education, water resource developments, etc. This interchange of ideas with legislators of other states having the same problems as Minnesota should be of great value.

In conclusion, it is very gratifying to find legislation which the League supported for so many years being expedited with the efficiency and spirit of cooperation evidenced by the members of the Legislative Research Committee and the Research Director. Apparently all members are cooperating vigorously to make the new L.R.C. a success and many of the minority members of the Legislature, who opposed its establishment because of the manner of choice of committee members, while withholding judgement somewhat, are also cooperating and evidencing a friendly interest in its progress. We believe the Minnesota Legislative Research Committee is off to a good, and even more important, sound start.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
November, 1948

STATE LEGISLATIVE SET-UP

FILE COPY

MISS BARBARA STUHLER

State League Office

Mrs. Hiram Livingston
State Legislative Chairman
1143 Xerxes Ave.S., Mpls. (Ke 6069)

Local League
Legislative
Presidents Chairmen

SUB-CHAIRMEN

<u>State Constitution</u>	<u>Education</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Pub.Health</u>	<u>Civil Service</u>
Mrs. Lincoln Thomas 164 Bedford Ave.S.E. Minneapolis 14 (Gl. 1760)	Mrs. G. V. Chapin Kasson Minnesota	Mrs. R. E. Kehl 56 Inner Drive St.Paul 15, Minn. (De Soto 6053)	Mrs. Elmer Rusten Wayzata, Minn. (Wayzata 462)	

Leg. Research Committee

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
State Legislative Set-up
November, 1948

MISS BARBARA STUHLER,
Organization Secretary,
League of Women Voters
of Minnesota

Watches for introduction of all bills on items on
our State Program of Work and Platform;

Notifies State Office and provides

1. Information on the different bills,
2. Names of Legislative Committees to which
Bills have been referred,
3. Name of Chairman of Committee,
4. Names of other members of Committee and
where they are from,
5. Time and place of all committee hearings;

Decides the right time for State Office to issue
CALL FOR ACTION;

Is our "expert" source of information on all items
on our Current Agenda and Platform;

Works with Mrs. Hiram Livingston to cover all
sessions of the Legislature.

MRS. HIRAM LIVINGSTON,
State Legislative Chairman,
1148 Xerxes Ave. S.,
Minneapolis (Ke 6069)

Works with Miss Stuhler to cover all sessions of
the Legislature, Public Hearings, etc.;

Substitutes for Miss Stuhler when she is out on
Field trips, or otherwise prevented from being
at the Capitol;

Secures sub-chairmen to assist her in different
fields of State League work;

Works with sub-chairmen to secure observers (lobby-
ists) for committee hearings, etc.;

Helps all chairmen and observers to know their way
around in the State Legislature.

STATE OFFICE

Writes Chairman of Legislative Committee to which
bills are referred informing him of League interest,
asking for his support, etc.;

Notifies all local Leagues (through President or
Legislative Chairman) when legislators from their
districts are members of the committee to which a
bill has been referred and asks them to

1. Write to their legislators for support of the
bill, and
2. Help secure letters, telegrams, etc. from League
members and others in response to CALL FOR
ACTION;

Reports to local Leagues (through President or Leg-
islative Chairman) progress of all bills on items
on State Current Agenda or Platform.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
State Legislative Set-up
November, 1948

SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

In cooperation with Mrs. Livingston arranges for observers (lobbyists) at all Committee Hearings on her particular item on State Program of Work;

Reports to Miss Stuhler (At. 0941) or to Mrs. Livingston (Ke. 6069), or both, all new developments on bills on her item on State Program (amendments, special hearings, etc.);

Promotes wide-spread response to CALL FOR ACTION when so requested by State Office.

STATE BOARD MEMBERS

Help with lobbying when necessary;

Issue CALLS FOR ACTION on State level;

Determine which bills, amendments, etc. the League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support when more than one bill is introduced on any item on the State Program of Work.

November 2, 1948

EXTENSION OF
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES IN MINNESOTA

FILE COPY

One important item on our State League platform has not been passed by the legislature. This is concerned with the extension of Public Health services by permitting the establishment of County or Multiple County Public Health Departments. It has been on our support program since 1944 and is as important to the field of Health as the Reorganization of School Districts is to Education.

Our present system of local health units is based on the pattern laid in territorial days when little was known of the science of preventive medicine and public health. As a result, there are 2714 jurisdictions in Minnesota which are permitted under the law to set up local health units, or about one for every one thousand people. It is estimated, however, that a population of fifty thousand people is necessary to have a broad enough tax base to support an adequate full-time public health department.

In 1945 Minnesota spent for this purpose 42¢ of local taxes per capita plus additional amounts from state and federal funds. Also private organizations raised money for preventive medicine. Still, nearly two million people in our state have no adequate public health services. The per capita cost to maintain county or district units headed by full-time public health officers would be about \$1.50. This is a small amount, in comparison to the great economic and personal loss to the community from preventable illness and death, as well as the high cost to the state for the care of cases such as tuberculosis which might have been prevented.

Minnesota is one of the last states to modernize its Public Health system. Forty-one states have already passed laws, either permissive or mandatory, to provide full-time public health services for all the people.

Such a proposal will again be introduced at the 1949 legislative session. It is not too early for local Leagues to review the public health needs in their communities, as well as in the state, and make them known to their legislators. It is the responsibility of all to see that this legislation is passed in 1949.

EDITORIAL FROM ST. PAUL PIONEER PRESS, MAY 12, 1947

RURAL PUBLIC HEALTH

"One of the most widely and persistently criticised omissions of the Minnesota Legislature is proving to be its failure to enact the local public health service bill.

"That failure was referred to with disparagement and dismay repeatedly during discussions at the recent rural church institute here. The reaction has been critical among state-wide health and farm groups. No real defense of the Legislature's failure in this respect ever has been forthcoming.

"In fact, appearances are that the failure is well nigh indefensible. The legislation was only a permissive act. It would have allowed one or more outlying counties to establish for themselves health services which would be more nearly comparable to the health protection that now is given as a matter of course to the people of the cities. It would have permitted a start toward replacing with effective protection the obsolete methods that constitute part of the background of the higher rates of death and disease and physical disabilities among country people than among city people. In view of the facts, it is not surprising that the failure is seized upon by(critical groups)..... in an attempt to make political capital against the legislative majority.

"And yet, the rank and file of that legislative majority had no share whatever in the guilt for killing that good bill. The Senate passed the bill unanimously. The chances are it would have gone through the House by a huge majority--if the House had been given a chance to vote it up or down.

"But the House got no such chance. Instead, the bill was killed in the House Appropriations committee, largely due to the outspoken opposition of three rural members. So it is those three members who have brought down upon the heads of the entire Legislature all the criticism and condemnation. The bill was the victim of an undemocratic process that balanced the determination of three off against most of the rest of the Legislature and let the three win.

"The lesson of all this is that in the next Legislature this bill or its equivalent must not fail. The farm, labor, women's, health, and other groups should have learned from this experience that the price of getting needed legislation enacted is eternal vigilance. And by the time two more years roll around, the idea can be firmly rooted that measures widely demanded for the health of the people are too important to be obstructed by small minorities in committee, and that next time this bill is to go through. That progress, rather than political capital, should be the real fruit of experience with this bill."

November 5, 1948

Mr. M. W. Halloran
Minneapolis Journal and Tribune
427 Sixth Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Halloran:

We are enclosing a copy of the Current Agenda and Platform of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The items on which we presently expect action in the 1949 Legislature are: Constitutional Revision, Civil Service, Housing, Legislative Research Committee, Education and Public Health.

You are scheduled to speak at 10:45 A. M. at the Legislative School at the State Office Building (Auditorium), St. Paul, on Friday, November 12th.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Hiram Livingston
Legislative Chairman

State of Minnesota

SEP 13 1948

O. R. VAN KREVELEN
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

Department of Administration State Capitol, St. Paul 1

EARL L. BERG
COMMISSIONER
OF
ADMINISTRATION

DIVISION OF PUBLIC
PROPERTY
FRED DENFELD
DIRECTOR

September 10, 1948

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
84 So. 10th Street, Room 417
Minneapolis 1, Minnesota

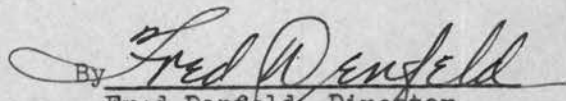
Attention Mrs. Hiram Livingston

Dear Mrs. Livingston:

We have reserved the Auditorium in the State Office Building for your use on Friday, November 12, 1948, as requested.

Yours truly

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
Earl L. Berg, Commissioner

By 
Fred Denfeld, Director
Division of Public Property

FD:gb



MEMORANDUM

84 South Tenth Street, Room 417

Minneapolis 2, Minnesota

(Atlantic 0941)

October 28, 1948

TO: ALL PUBLICITY CHAIRMEN

FROM: YOUR STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE SCHOOL, AUDITORIUM, STATE OFFICE BUILDING, ST. PAUL, NOV. 12

In just two weeks the bi-annual Legislative School sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota at the State Capitol in St. Paul will open for a one-day session. Representatives from many of the local Leagues in Minnesota and your State Board will be on hand for this short course on how the State Legislature works and why.

When January rolls around and we begin to lobby for what legislation we believe is right in the public interest, these chalk-talks will likely pay off. Remember the date - Friday, November 12th - plan your publicity releases so that they reach your city desk or local editor by Monday, November 8th. You might lead off with the names of the local leaguers who will attend the school. If not, play up the principal speakers or topics, then follow through with the rest of the information.

Here's the program:

10:00 A. M. Suggestions for legislative lobbying and correspondence - Miss Barbara Stuhler, State Organization Secretary

"Know Your Legislature" - M. W. Halloran, political writer for the Minneapolis Star and Tribune

"To Pass or Not to Pass", a skit on how a bill makes its way through the legislature - Mrs. Abbott Washburn, Minneapolis, assisted by other League members

A summary of prospective legislation for the 1949 session - winding up with a guided trip through the marble halls of the State Capitol for those who are interested.

See you then.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Raymond E. Kehl

Mrs. G. Lee Runyon



DEAN M. SCHWEICKHARD
COMMISSIONER

T. J. BERNING
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

State of Minnesota

Department of Education

St. Paul 1

3

October 29, 1948

NOV - 1 1948

Mrs. Hiram Livingston
Legislative Chairman
League of Women Voters of Minnesota
823-33 Lumber Exchange
Minneapolis 1, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Livingston:

In reply to your letter of October 26, we wish to state that there is no Interim Committee on Education at the present time, nor was there such a committee for the last legislative session.

Yours very truly,

T. C. Engum
Director of Rural Education

TCE:kr

REORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS

I. THE NEED FOR REORGANIZATION

- A. The provisions of our State Constitution (Article VIII., Sec. 1) for Education state: "it shall be the duty of the legislature to establish a general and uniform system of public schools".
- B. The present system in Minnesota is neither uniform nor equal

Minnesota ranks 4th in the nation in number of school districts. 20% of its 7,684 districts have an enrollment of less than 10 pupils, 70% less than 19 pupils. Such a large number of districts leads to unneeded duplication of facilities and makes it difficult to provide an adequate educational program in an efficient and economical manner.

The cost (\$67,619,452 for the present biennium) of maintaining 7,684 school districts is not rewarding in terms of educational values received. The 1949 state legislature will be faced with an educational budget of \$78,484,036 for the next biennium, an increase of nearly \$11,000,000.

Out of 5,000 open ungraded elementary schools in Minnesota, 43% have an enrollment of less than 14 pupils. Out of 435 high schools in Minnesota, 33 have less than 50 pupils, 114 have less than 110 pupils, and 86 have over 100 but less than 150 pupils. Only 73 school districts in Minnesota have a population of 2500 or more. Because of the decline in school enrollments and other factors, the per-pupil costs in many schools have greatly increased while at the same time equality of educational opportunity has been decreasing. It is entirely possible that Minnesota schools could be better administered with less than 100 school districts. Decreasing the number of school districts in many instances will result in a saving to the taxpayer, and more education for the dollar spent.

II. WHAT HAS BEEN DONE TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION

- A. A law (Chapter 421) enacted at the 1947 session of the State Legislature permits the reorganization of school districts where conditions are found to warrant it, if the voters in the affected areas approve of such reorganization.

- B. Under the provisions of Chapter 421

A State Advisory Commission of 9 members has been appointed by the State Board of Education to act as a clearing house and focal point for local studies. Dr. A. E. Jacobson, Thief River Falls, is Chairman of this Commission.

63 of Minnesota's 87 counties voted last year to establish School Survey Committees of 9 members. 20 counties failed to take advantage of the law. The statute was not applicable to 4 counties.

- C. 62 of the 63 County School Survey Committees, after studying school districts of the county and their reorganization, visiting schools, and conferring with school authorities and residents of districts of the county, prepared tentative reports of their recommendations, copies of which were filed prior to September 1, 1948, with the County Superintendent of Schools, school board members, and the State Commissioner of Education. 1 Committee was declared illegal because of inadequate publicity given prior to its formation. Residents of the county or affected district were given the opportunity to be heard regarding the proposed change at public hearings.
- D. Survey Committee final reports were due on or before November 1, 1948. Copies of these reports will soon be made available to the public, and a summary of the contents of the reports will be published by the State Advisory Commission on School Reorganization.
- E. The Survey Committees found that opposition to school district reorganization (representing for the most part rural interests) presented the following arguments:

1. Desire of rural areas to maintain control over education
2. Desire to have the school near home
3. Desire to avoid dangers of transportation
4. Desire for representation on school board
5. Desire to retain school for community center
6. Feeling that local control is last stronghold of Democracy
7. Feeling that "what was good enough for me is good enough for my children".

III. WHAT REMAINS TO BE DONE UNDER PROVISIONS OF EXISTING LAW

Superintendent of county in which a major portion of the proposed district is situated shall arrange for election on the recommendation for reorganization as recommended by the County Survey Committee within 9 months after filing of the final report.

IV. PROBABILITY OF FUTURE LEGISLATION ON REORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Because certain counties which originally rejected the creation of a Survey Committee have since indicated interest in conducting a study, the State Department of Education has announced that it will request the 1949 Legislature for amendments to Chapter 421 which would:

- (a) Give those counties another opportunity to create a Survey Committee
- (b) Provide for a longer interval between the several steps in the procedure than is required under the present law.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
84 South Tenth Street, Room 417
Minneapolis 2, Minn. (At. 0941)
November 5, 1948

STATE AID TO EDUCATION

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota supported two bills which were enacted into law by the 1947 Legislature: The Revision of State Aids, Chapter 633, Laws 1947, and a bill to provide a uniform system of assessments. Enacted into law, Chapter 531, Laws 1947, this bill requires the appointment of a Supervisor of Assessments in all counties which do not have a County Assessor. Only 35 counties have had a County Assessor, and now under this law the remaining 52 have appointed a Supervisor. As assessments are the basis for payment of equalization aid to school districts, this law makes possible a fairer distribution of such aids.

The Revised State Aid Law reduces the number of aids from 42 to 21, increases materially by \$11,000,000 the amount of money appropriated, and provides for an equalization aid, up to \$60 per resident pupil unit in A. D. A. (average daily attendance), for districts where low assessed valuation prevents maintenance of minimum standards. It further provides for a 9 month school term in all schools, free textbooks for all pupils, allocation of a portion of fund to teachers' salaries, transportation, vocational, and emergency aid.

Another improvement over the former law is the establishment of a system for distribution of most of the funds on a current basis. Thus, the basic aid (\$50 per resident pupil in A. D. A.) and equalization aid (from \$3 to \$60 per resident pupil A. D. A.) is distributed in this manner: 50% in October, 45% in March, and the remaining 5% in August. 2,368 districts have an assessed valuation of less than \$2,000 and received equalization aid. Other aids were paid in full in October, and emergency aid is paid as granted.

From the few provisions listed above, it can be seen that the law is indeed a forward step for education. One problem which will have to be met during the 1949 legislative session is that this same law will cost the State approximately an additional \$3,000,000 during the coming year, because of the expected increase in school population of from 35,000 to 45,000 pupils for whom aid must be paid. In addition, a few refinements remain to be made in the law. It aids all school districts which meet its requirements, and thus perpetuates small schools and schools with poor programs.

FILE COPY

Veteran's Preference in Minnesota

Why Do We Have a Merit System?

Government, like private business, needs competent personnel to do a good job. The League has long fought for the merit system on all levels of government because a large portion of government expense goes to pay personal service costs which in turn come from public tax funds. A well functioning merit system cuts down spoils and means greater tax savings through greater efficiency in public service.

Veterans' Preference is Opposed to Merit System

The principle of the merit system requires the selection and promotion of public employees solely on the basis of fitness. Veteran's Preference, because it requires that preference be given to a special class, is contrary to the merit principle.

Community Owes Limited Preference to Veterans

While the fact is generally accepted that the community owes assistance to the veteran in re-establishing himself in civilian life, the League of Women Voters believes that Veterans' Preference in Civil Service should be applied so as to cause the least harm to the merit system and so as not to discourage capable non-veterans from seeking government service.

Since the number of veterans in private employ far exceeds those in government employ a well functioning merit system benefits the majority of veterans as it does all taxpayers.

How Does Veterans' Preference Operate?

Veterans' Preference in Minnesota has its legal foundation in two separate divisions of the law, as follows:

1) The Civil Service Act, Chapter 43 of Minnesota Statutes 1945, section 43.30, as amended by Chapter 395, Session Laws of Minnesota for 1947 prescribes the way in which Veterans' Preference shall be applied in the Classified Service of the State Department of Civil Service

Note: In the St. Louis County Civil Service Department, Veterans' Preference is applied in much the same way as in the Classified Service of the State Civil Service Department.

As prescribed by the Civil Service Act, some of the features running counter to the merit principle are as follows:

a) Veterans are entitled to extra points in their examination scores whether or not they earn a passing grade (70%).

b) The non-disabled veteran is given an advantage of five extra points. This same advantage is extended to the widows of non-disabled veterans.

c) The disabled veteran, the widow of a disabled veteran and the wife of an incapacitated disabled veteran are given an advantage of 10 extra

points. Thus a disabled veteran who fails an examination with a score of 60% is brought up to a passing grade of 70%. Then he receives an ABSOLUTE PREFERENCE i.e. his name is placed on the eligible list ahead of all others.

d) Veterans' Preference is applied to PROMOTIONAL as well as to entrance examinations.

Note: It is generally considered especially poor personnel practice to apply preference to promotional examinations; it makes for poor morale on the part of the non-veterans because their chances for promotion are very slight.

2) General Veterans' Preference Law: Sections 197.45-.48 of Minnesota Statutes, 1945, determines how Veterans' Preference shall be applied in: the Unclassified Service of the State Government; the County Welfare Merit Systems; and the Civil Service Departments of Ramsey County, Duluth, St. Paul and Minneapolis.

As prescribed by the General Veterans' Preference Law veterans, their widows and the wives of disabled veterans must receive a passing score of 70% in order to be considered for preference. If, however they do make a passing grade they then receive ABSOLUTE PREFERENCE i.e. their name is placed at the head of the eligible list. This applies to both entrance and promotional examination.

Note: The disabled veteran does not receive any preference over the non-disabled.

What Constitutes a Fair Veterans' Preference?

A report submitted August 4, 1944 to the Executive Council of the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada by its Committee on Veteran Employment Policies contained a list of 18 recommendations from which the following six are taken:

- 1) Veterans should be required to pass an examination before receiving preference consideration.
- 2) Preference should not be applied to promotional examinations.
- 3) Veterans should be entitled to preference which takes the form of extra credit points added to the earned examination rating.
- 4) Absolute preference should not be used. A veteran should take his place on the eligible list according to his augmented score.
- 5) Non-disabled veterans should receive five points on the basis of 100. Disabled veterans should receive not more than ten points.
- 6) Preference for veterans should be limited to a five year period after the war or five years after discharge or release from war service, whichever date is later.

For a more expanded treatment of Veterans' Preference see: "Veterans' Preference in Minnesota", publication No. 4, Minnesota Legislative Research Committee.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
84 South Tenth Street, Room 417
Minneapolis 2, Minn. (At. 0941)
November 5, 1948

FILE COPY

LIST OF MINNESOTA MEMBERS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES
81ST CONGRESS

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT I.	*August H. Andresen, Red Wing
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT II.	*Joseph P. O'Hara, Glencoe
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT III.	Roy W. Wier, Minneapolis
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT IV.	Eugene McCarthy, St. Paul
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT V.	*Walter H. Judd, Minneapolis
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VI.	Fred Marshall, Grove City
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VII.	*H. Carl Andersen, Tyler
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VIII.	*John A. Blatnik, Chisholm
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT IX.	*Harold C. Hagen, Crookston

(Those marked * served in the 80th Congress)

LIST OF MINNESOTA SENATORS
81ST CONGRESS

Hubert H. Humphrey, Minneapolis
Edward J. Thye, Northfield

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
 84 South 10th Street, Room 417
 Minneapolis 2, Minn. (At. 0941)
 November 8, 1948

FILE COPY

MEMBERS
 of
 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE 1949 SESSION

<u>Leg. Dist.</u>	<u>Counties Composed of</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Postoffice</u>
1	Fillmore-Houston-at Large Fillmore Houston	Harry Greer Teman Thompson Carl S. Burtness	Lanesboro Lanesboro Caledonia
2	Winona (first division) Winona (second division)	Al R. Lejk J. R. Keller	Winona Rollingstone
3	Wabasha	Thomas C. Richardson	Elgin
4	Olmstead	Leo D. Madden	Eyota
5	Dodge Mower	Oliver J. Holtan Jacob Herzog	Mantorville Austin
6	Freeborn	Irvin M. Talle	Albert Lea
7	Faribault	L. B. Erdahl	Frost
8	Blue Earth	Robert J. Sheran Walter J. Croswell	Mankato Lake Crystal
9	Martin Watsonwan	M. N. Johnson M. K. Hegstrom	Sherburne St. James
10	Cottonwood Jackson	Thomas Bondhus H. A. Frederickson	Storden Windom R.F.D.
11	Nobles Rock	S. Halverson J. F. Searles	Worthington Beaver Creek
12	Lincoln Murray Pipestone	Wilhelm Holm Trigg H. Knutson Henry Appeldorn	Tyler Slayton Pipestone
13	Lyon Yellow Medicine	Will N. Nelson Oscar Peterson	Tracy Clarkfield
14	Brown-Redwood-at Large Brown Redwood	William V. Burroughs Arthur A. Waibel Aubrey W. Dirlam	Sleepy Eye New Ulm Redwood Falls
15	Nicollet Sibley	Harold R. Anderson August B. Mueller	North Mankato Arlington
16	Steele Waseca	John A. Hartle Omar Dahle	Owatonna Waseca
17	Le Sueur	Wesley H. Erkel	LeCenter

Members of House of Representatives
Minnesota Legislature 1949 Session (Cont)

<u>Leg. Dist.</u>	<u>Counties Composed of</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Postoffice</u>
18	Rice	Ralph H. Illsley	Dundas
19	Goodhue 1st Division Goodhue 2nd Division	Roy L. Voxland Clarence G. Langley	Kenyon Red Wing
20	Dakota	Arthur Gillen	South St. Paul
21	Carver Scott	Howard Ottinger Michael R. Moriarty	Chaska Jordan
22	McLeod	Emil C. Ernst	Lester Prairie
23	Renville	Odean Ernestvedt	Sacred Heart
24	Chippewa Lac qui Parle	Everett S. Mills Howard W. Rundquist	Montevideo Dawson
25	Kandiyohi Swift	Reuben W. Felt Alfred I. Johnson	Willmar Benson
26	Meeker	Stanley W. Holmquist	Grove City
27	Wright	E. R. Ilstrup Robert F. Lee	Buffalo Annandale
28	Hennepin	Edward J. Tomczyk Ted L. Biernat	Minneapolis Minneapolis
29	Hennepin	George E. Murk Carl O. Wegner	Minneapolis Minneapolis
30	Hennepin	Alf L. Bergerud Thomas N. Christie	Minneapolis Minneapolis
31	Hennepin	Carl G. Hagland Leonard A. Johnson	Minneapolis Minneapolis
32	Hennepin	Harold R. Lundeen Edward J. Volstead	Minneapolis Minneapolis
33	Hennepin	George A. French Charles W. Root	Minneapolis Minneapolis
34	Hennepin	P. Kenneth Peterson Vernon S. Welch	Minneapolis Minneapolis
35	Hennepin	H. P. Goodin Leo D. Mosier	Minneapolis Minneapolis
36	Rural Hennepin South Rural Hennepin North	George R. Matchan Lawrence F. Haeg	2832 Kenwood Av. St. Louis Park Robbinsdale

Members of House of Representatives
Minnesota Legislature 1949 Session

<u>Leg.</u> <u>Dist.</u>	<u>Counties</u> <u>Composed of</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Postoffice</u>
37	Ramsey North Ramsey South	Sheldon Beanblossom Arthur Gibbons	St. Paul St. Paul
38	Ramsey North Ramsey South	Joseph Prifrel, Jr. Anthony Podgorski	St. Paul St. Paul
39	Ramsey Ward 5 Ramsey Ward 6	Edwin Meihofer Patrick D. Creamer	St. Paul St. Paul
40	Ramsey Ward 4 Ramsey Ward 7	Alfred J. Otto Louis W. Hill	St. Paul St. Paul
41	Ramsey	William E. Carlson Frederick P. Memmer	St. Paul St. Paul
42	Ramsey North Ramsey South	Claude H. Allen William P. Tucker	St. Paul St. Paul
43	Washington	John F. Howard James W. O'Brien	St. Paul Park Stillwater
44	Anoka-Isanti	John H. Nordin	Columbia Heights
45	Benton-Sherburne Stearns	John T. Kosloske Dewey Reed	Sauk Rapids St. Cloud
46	Stearns 1st division Stearns 2nd division	Fred T. Lux John J. Kinzer	Sauk Centre Cold Spring
47	Douglas Pope	Otto E. Clark Floyd O. Flom	Osakis Glenwood
48	Stevens Grant Traverse Big Stone	A. F. Riedner Carl M. Iverson Carl J. Rinke R. H. Ehrenberg	Morris Ashby Wheaton Graceville
49	Clay Wilkin	Ray Gesell Ely R. Schenck	Moorhead Wolverton
50	Otter Tail	Roy B. Aune Roy E. Dunne E. J. Windmiller J. A. Anderson	Parkers Prairie Pelican Rapids Fergus Falls New York Mills
51	Wadena Todd	R. R. Ryti Lafayette C. Dixon	Wadena Long Prairie
52	Cass Itasca	Don D. Lundrigan Vladimir Shipka	Walker Grand Rapids
53	Crow Wing-Morrison-at Large Crow Wing Morrison	Fred W. Schwanke Frank B. Johnson Albert Dominick	Deerwood Brainerd Pierz

Members of House of Representatives
Minnesota Legislature 1949 Session

<u>Leg. Dist.</u>	<u>Counties Composed of</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Postoffice</u>
54	Aitkin Carlton	F. C. Kaplan Henry Mattson	McGregor Cloquet
55	Mille Lacs-Kanabec- Sherburne	Theodore C. Swanson Thomas L. Ryan	Princeton Milaca
56	Chisago Pine	A. F. Oberg Joe Karas	Lindstrom Pine City
57	Cook-Lake St. Louis	August Omtvedt A. B. Anderson	Two Harbors Duluth
58	St. Louis	Thomas F. O'Malley Arne C. Wavnick	Duluth Duluth
59	St. Louis	Dwight A. Swanstrom Francis LaBrosse	Duluth Duluth
60	St. Louis	Carl M. D'Aquila Loren S. Rutter	Hibbing Kinney
61	St. Louis	Fred A. Cina Richard A. Silvola	Aurora Virginia
62	Koochiching Beltrami-Lake of the Woods	E. J. Chilgren Leonard R. Dickinson	Littlefork Bemidji
63	Hubbard Becker	Grant H. Norman Harry Basford	Hubbard Wolf Lake
64	Norman-Mahnomen	John R. Blomquist	Waubun
65	Pennington-Red Lake- Clearwater	Walter E. Day C. S. McReynolds	Bagley Clearbrook
66	Polk	Thomas A. Letnes Reuben H. Tweten	Nielsville Fosston
67	Kittson Marshall Roseau	E. B. Herseth Emil Morberg Curtiss Olson	R.F.D. Drayton N.D. Oslo Roseau

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
 84 South 10th Street, Room 417
 Minneapolis 2, Minn. (At. 0941)
 November 8, 1948

FILE COPY

MEMBERS
 OF
 MINNESOTA SENATE
 1949 SESSION

<u>Leg. Dist.</u>	<u>Counties Composed of</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Postoffice</u>
1	Fillmore-Houston	John A. Johnson	Litchfield
2	Winona	Leonard W. Dernek	Winona
3	Wabasha	James A. Carley	Plainview
4	Olmsted	Walter Burdick	Rochester
5	Dodge-Mower	Werner E. Wuertz	Austin
6	Freeborn	Helmer Myre	Albert Lea
7	Faribault	D. M. Carey	Wells
8	Blue Earth	Val Imm	Mankato
9	Martin-Watonwan	Frank E. Dougherty	Fairmont
10	Cottonwood-Jackson	B. E. Grottum	Jackson
11	Nobles-Rock	Milford Davis	Reading
12	Lincoln-Pipestone- Murray	Hans C. Pedersen	Ruthton
13	Lyon-Yellow Medicine	A. L. Almen	Balaton
14	Brown-Redwood	John M. Zwach	Milroy
15	Nicollet-Sibley	Oscar A. Swenson	Rte 2, Nicollet
16	Steele-Waseca	Claude G. Baughman	Waseca
17	LeSueur	Frank M. Wrabek	LeCenter
18	Rice	R. B. Goodhue	Dennison
19	Goodhue	Grover C. George	Goodhue
20	Dakota	Sam W. Dennison	South St. Paul
21	Carver-Scott	Henry Wagener	Waconia
22	McLeod	Ancher Nelsen	Hutchinson
23	Renville	Leo J. Lauerman	Olivia
24	Chippewa-Lac qui Parle	Edward Hagen	Milan
25	Kandiyohi-Swift	Harry L. Wahlstrand	Willmar
26	Meeker	J. A. Simonson	Litchfield
27	Wright	Thomas P. Welch	Buffalo
28	Hennepin	Raymond J. Julkowski	Minneapolis
29	Hennepin	Emmett L. Duemke	Minneapolis
30	Hennepin	Donald O. Wright	Minneapolis
31	Hennepin	Ralph L. Mayhood	Minneapolis
32	Hennepin	Marvin H. Anderson	Minneapolis
33	Hennepin	Harold Harrison	Minneapolis
34	Hennepin	Daniel S. Feidt	Minneapolis
35	Hennepin	Gerald T. Mullin	Minneapolis
36	Hennepin	Archie H. Miller	Hopkins, Route 2
37	Ramsey	Everett L. Peterson	St. Paul
38	Ramsey	B. G. Novak	St. Paul
39	Ramsey	Joseph H. Masek	St. Paul
40	Ramsey	Milton C. Lightner	St. Paul
41	Ramsey	George L. Siegel	St. Paul
42	Ramsey	Charles N. Orr	St. Paul
43	Washington	Karl G. Neumeier	Stillwater
44	Anoka-Isanti	Wendell L. Ledin	Bethel
45	Benton-Sherburne- Stearns	Henry H. Sullivan	St. Cloud

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
 Minnesota Senate Members - 2
 November, 1948

<u>Leg. Dist.</u>	<u>Counties Composed of</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Postoffice</u>
46	Stearns	Leo Welle	Albany
47	Douglas-Pope	C. L. Cole	Alexandria
48	Big Stone - Grant - Steven-Traverse	A. R. Johanson	Wheaton
49	Clay-Wilkin	Magnus Wefald	Hawley
50	Otter Tail	Colvin G. Butler	Fergus Falls
51	Todd-Wadena	Ernest P. Anderson	Wadena
52	Cass-Itasca	George O'Brien	Grand Rapids
53	Crow Wing - Morrison	Gordon Rosenmeier	Little Falls
54	Aitkin-Carlton	Gordon Bushnell	Tamarack
55	Kansbec Mille Lacs - Sherburne	C. C. Mitchell	Princeton
56	Chisago-Pine	C. Elmer Johnson	Almelund
57	Cook-Lake-St. Louis	C. A. Dahle	Duluth
58	St. Louis	Herbert Rogers	Duluth
59	St. Louis	Homer M. Carr	Proctor
60	St. Louis	Elmer Peterson	Hibbing
61	St. Louis	Thomas D. Vukelich	Gilbert
62	Beltrami-Koochiching- Lake of the Woods	H. A. Bridgeman	Bemidji
63	Becker-Hubbard	A. O. Sletvold	Detroit Lakes
64	Norman-Mahnomen	Norman J. Larson	Ada
65	Clearwater-Pennington- Red Lake	Wm. E. Dahlquist	Thief River Falls
66	Polk	Julius Spokely	Crookston
67	Kittson-Roseau-Marshall	Donald Sinclair	Stephen

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
84 South Tenth Street, Room 417
Minneapolis 2, Minn. (At. 0941)
November 8, 1948

FILE COPY

LETTERS TO LEGISLATORS

In order that the messages we send to our elected representatives on all levels of government may merit the attention we want them to receive, it is necessary to keep in mind the following points:

1. Be sure that your letters can be easily read. If you do not have access to a typewriter, try to write as legibly as possible.
2. Use plain paper for your letters. It is best not to send post cards since many legislators feel that if the constituent gave only the superficial time reflected in a post card, it cannot be a very important matter.
3. Always write an original letter. Anything resembling a form letter will probably be disregarded.
4. State your views briefly and be sure that your letter reflects the thought that you have given to the issue or issues about which you are writing.
5. Indicate your appreciation:
 - a. for taking time to read your letter
 - b. for sending requested material
 - c. for voting in accordance with a League stand.

Correct Salutations

Sir:

My dear Sir:

These three apply to all officials

Dear Sir:

Mr dear Senator:

Dear Senator:

My dear Senator _____: Representative _____: Governor _____: Mayor _____:

Dear Senator _____: Dear Mr. _____: Governor _____: Mayor _____:

These salutations are listed in the order of decreasing formality.

Correct Addresses

The Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey
The United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

The Honorable Walter H. Judd
The House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

The Honorable Donald O. Wright
Senate Chambers
St. Paul, Minnesota

The Honorable George A. French
House Chambers
St. Paul, Minnesota

The Honorable Luther W. Youngdahl
Governor of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota

The Honorable Eric Hoyer
Mayor of the City of Minneapolis
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Correct Closes

Respectfully,

Very truly yours,

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
84 South Tenth Street, Minneapolis
November 8, 1948

LOBBYING

Listed below are a few suggestions which will enable you to be effective in advocating legislation which is on the League program.

1. Knowledge of subject matter.
 - a. Know the reasons for the League stand on particular issues.
 - b. Be familiar with the other viewpoints on controversial subjects.
 - c. Present your information in an accurate and concise manner.
2. Knowledge of legislators.
 - a. Know their backgrounds and interests.
 - b. Keep up to date with their voting records.
3. Etiquette.
 - a. Promptness in keeping appointments.
 - b. Learn legislative protocol and act accordingly. Obtain a copy of the official Directory from your legislator.
 - c. Comply promptly with requests from legislators for material and further information.
4. Diplomacy.
 - a. Try to remember the names of the legislators.
 - b. Avoid personalities.
 - c. Do not repeat to one legislator what you have heard from another.
5. Salesmanship.
 - a. If you can make the legislator think that the idea came from him rather than you, you may be much more successful.
 - b. Do not try to high-pressure or argue with a legislator. He reserves the right to vote as he wishes on a bill.
 - c. Speak with conviction and sincerity.
 - d. The League of Women Voters is judged by what you do and how you act - common sense is probably your best guide.

LEGISLATIVE SCHOOL, AUDITORIUM, STATE
OFFICE BUILDING, Nov. 12, 1948

73
96
12
108

AFTON-LAKELAND LEAGUE

Mrs. K. T. Bacon
Mrs. Wm. Belz
Mrs. T. R. Hamilton
Mrs. Richard Gilfillan
Mrs. Bob Bauer
Mrs. Harold Broecker
Mrs. Myron France
Mrs. Harold Lind
Mrs. D. V. Hamilton

ANOKA

Mrs. Everett MacDonald
Mrs. Mary Spurzem
Mrs. Wm. Andberg

ATWATER

EXCELSIOR

Miss Dora Pletke
Mrs. Harris Pett
Mrs. O. J. Ellertson
Mrs. E. T. Bettels

FERGUS FALLS

GOLDEN VALLEY

Vera Spotts)
Betty Kane) UNIT 2
Arlene Petterson)
Thione Beal)
Mrs. Alfred Moore) UNIT 1
Irene Hartuppee Mrs. Chas. Adams)

GRANITE FALLS

AUSTIN

GROVE CITY

BEMIDJI

HIBBING

Mrs. Robert Murray

BUFFALO

Mrs. Glen Swenson Mrs. G. H. Burkland
Mrs. Harold Peterson Mrs. Phil Pearson
Mrs. E. A. Illstrup possibly 3
Mrs. Henry Brandt or 4 more
CASS LAKE

HUTCHINSON

Mrs. Delwin Derifield
Mrs. Don Dobratz
Mrs. O. H. Englund
Mrs. R. J. Peterson

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS

KASSON

Mrs. D. N. Dibble Mrs. G. V. Chapin
Miss Bertha Hunt Mrs. Haven Anderson
Mrs. Norman Torgerson
Mrs. C. W. Anderson

MAHTOMEDI

Mrs. Arnold Anderson
Mrs. George Bowles
Mrs. Robert Raustadt

DULUTH

MANKATO

Mrs W. B. Kaufman
Mrs. George Pass
Mrs. E. B. McGrew
Mrs. R. E. Olsen
Mrs. K. O. Peterson
Mrs. E. D. Dunlop

MOUND

Mrs. A. K. Aslakson
Mrs. R. E. Held

RED WING

Mrs. A. E. Freeberg
Mrs. Royal V. Sherman

SAINT PAUL

Mrs. Donald Bagley
Mrs. H. G. Zavoral
Mrs. Arthur B. Anderson
Mrs. Helen Fitzgerald
Mrs. A. L. Mae
Mrs. L. Warren
Mrs. E. Smith
Mrs. G. T. Power
Mrs. Robert Tracht
Mrs. Harold Hanson
Mrs. Russell Henning
Mrs. J. E. Maher
Mrs. G. B. Walker
Mrs. Robert Herr
Mrs. Geo. E. Freese
Mrs. John A. Seabury

Mrs. David Moore
Mrs. Carl Dreves
Mrs. R. Brustuen
Mrs. Stewart Rothman
Mrs. Dorothy Bretzner
Mrs. Alice Lilliberg
Mrs. Saml. E. Lewis
Mrs. Dewey Gruenhagen
Mrs. Raymond E. Kehl

Mrs.

*Mrs. Nashburn
Mrs. Nashburn
Mrs. Thomas
Mrs. Hampton
Mrs. Palmer
Mrs. Malheur
Mrs. Steiner
Mrs. Evers
Mrs. Jensen*

*South St. Paul =
Rochester - 5
Minnetonka*

WASECA

Mrs. Leopold Buchwald
Mrs. Warren Gray
Mrs. Einer Iversen
Mrs. Manley Youngberg

*Mrs. Stutler
Mrs. Smith*

NEW ULM

Mrs. Harry Woerner

Platt Beach 1.2

Langraves