



League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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REGISTRATION AND VOTING MANUAL

for Inner-City Drives

HOW TO REACH THE HARD-TO-REACH. This pamphlet will tell you how to conduct successful registration and voting campaigns among the poor and the by-passed of our cities. It especially stresses the need for personal contact and for cooperative planning to carry out campaigns in selected target areas.

VOTING IS PEOPLE POWER is based on nine pilot drives sponsored over a three-year period by the League of Women Voters Education Fund. The campaigns, directed by leaders of Leagues of Women Voters, civil rights organizations, inner-city churches, labor unions, civic organizations and neighborhood associations brought together community resources to increase the voting power of people in the ghettos.

If you want to know about

- ✓ Barriers to voting—psychological and mechanical
- ✓ Neighborhood leaders—Where to find them?
- ✓ Planning a campaign—loosely organized or tightly knit?
- ✓ Money—For what? From whom?
- ✓ Printed materials—What kinds are effective?
- ✓ Election Day—and after
- ✓ Plus many more subjects of interest

order your copies of this 36-page, lively, illustrated booklet from the League of Women Voters Education Fund, 1200 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036. The charge is 25¢ prepaid. Grants from The Sears-Roebuck Foundation and The Field Foundation make possible such a modest handling charge.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS EDUCATION FUND

1200 17th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20036

Telephone: 202 659-2685

Please send me _____ copies of VOTING IS PEOPLE POWER for the prepaid handling charge of 25¢ a copy. Enclosed is \$_____.

Name _____

Address _____

(ms.)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 555 Wabasha St. Paul, Minnesota
55102

Sample News Release on Digest of School Election Laws

Tailor your own news article to the current emphases in your League--you may be about to have some meeting or study under the state Education item, or under a local Education item . . or perhaps you want to tie in to some completely different current League activity and can use this timely new publication as an example of the kinds of services your community has because YOU are there, as a Local League! Type your news release double spaced, and include at the very top the name of the person sending it, her address, League title, and her phone number--so the paper can call for additional information.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Residents of independent school districts may be better informed voters because of a new publication by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, according to _____, president of the League of Women Voters of _____ (your town) _____.

"We shall be distributing copies of A Digest of Minnesota School District Election Laws at our very next public meeting _____ (date) at _____ (place, time)," she announced.

A companion to the League's Digest of Minnesota Election Laws, the new publication contains information on qualifications for voting, absentee voting, candidates, election procedures, and special elections in independent school districts.

"Election information for school districts is not included in Minnesota Election Laws published by the secretary of state," Mrs. _____ (your president's name) _____, explained. "This League publication will aid in helping citizens understand provisions of these laws."

Additional copies will be available from _____ (list here name of your publications chairman, perhaps some future distribution place or time, etc.) _____.

(If you are donating copies of the School Laws Digest to the library, the schools, etc., you may wish to say this, too, in this news release--and if you can get a quote from your school board chairman or superintendent or both about how they welcome this publication, fine!)

. . and how about a newspaper photo of some local educator or school board member examining the publication?

The
AMUSES HER

IRRESPONSIBLE WOMAN CITIZEN
FAILS TO VOTE

THIS IS THE RESULT



The
INFORMS HER

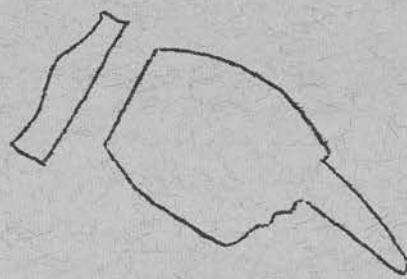
RESPONSIBLE WOMAN CITIZEN
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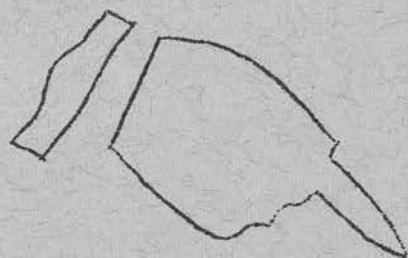
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INVITE THE



VOTER

TO MEET THE



CANDIDATE

This Candidates Meeting Manual has been prepared for your convenience in planning candidates meetings. Judging from the many queries coming to the state Board, the help most wanted was on this particular phase of Voters Service. We hope you will find your questions answered in this small handbook which you can easily insert into your Give The Voter A Hand.

The best help we can give is that which is passed from one League to another, based upon the successful experience of individual Leagues, using the basic, accepted League principles and policies.

* * *

When we cook, we insure a successful recipe by using careful preparation, the necessary and proper ingredients, and an appealing service. In the League, we may use this same formula for a successful candidates meeting.

The PREPARATION is made by the Board of Directors and the Voters Service Committee pooling their experience and resources.

The INGREDIENTS are an interested audience, a convenient and adequate meeting place, an able moderator, the candidates and the important issues of the election that are of interest to the public.

The final step is the SERVING...the meeting itself which may be garnished to taste to stimulate hearty appetites.

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What can be done to stimulate interest and add variety?

I. WHY HAVE A CANDIDATES MEETING?

A. VALUES

The purpose of the League of Women Voters is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. A candidates meeting is an excellent way to carry out this purpose.

A Candidates Meeting is a place where the citizen may meet the man who is asking for his vote. It gives the citizen the opportunity to become informed both on the qualifications of his prospective governmental officials and on the important issues of the election. The League, with its impartial and non-partisan policies, is in an excellent position to render this service.

A by-product of the candidates meeting, of great value to the League, is the public relations aspect of bringing the League and its purpose to the community.

B. PITFALLS

The meeting must be carefully planned and carried through, after thorough and realistic discussion by the entire Board.

The League works for good government but never supports a candidate or a political party.

We must be constantly on the alert that we give no impression of supporting one candidate or party; that we give no preferential consideration to any candidate or party.

Precautions are ever necessary to maintain the non-partisan policy of the League. Unless precautions are taken a poorly organized meeting could result in ill-feelings toward the League and could be more harmful than no meeting at all.

These precautions are discussed more thoroughly in the sections on meetings, candidates and moderating.

C. SOME CONSIDERATIONS

When you are deciding whether you should have a candidates meeting, ask yourselves, "Are we duplicating a service some other organization offers?" (This does not include the neighborhood "Come over and meet Joe" sort of thing.) We must be aware that more and more organizations are forming their own political action committees and do have meetings where they present all candidates. If you learn there will be duplication, you may want to join with the other group; but be sure that your cooperation will result in a truly non-partisan meeting. There are many organizations that are happy to cooperate with the League for such a meeting and if you accept such cooperation, it will swell the attendance.

You might also ask, "Do we have the energy and manpower to insure a well-attended meeting?" A successful meeting means many hard hours of work. Occasionally the candidates are all unopposed and there are no controversial issues in the election. This puts an even greater challenge to your imagination, in thinking of unique ideas for arousing interest in the election.

II. PREPARATION AND INGREDIENTS

A. Early preparation

When planning a candidates meeting, it is wise to make an outline of the work to be done and to set deadlines on the steps of the outline. Early plans mean better opportunities to secure a date before the candidates' calendars become too crowded, to engage the meeting place you think most desirable, to give the Public Relations Committee time to make its plans for publicizing the meeting. In your planning, think about these things: When and where shall we hold the meeting? What type of publicity will bring a crowd? Which candidates shall be invited? Who shall be the moderator? In what order shall the candidates speak? What time limits shall we have? Shall we allow time for rebuttal? How shall we handle questions from the audience? -3-

B. THE INGREDIENTS

1. The Meeting Time and Place

After the decision is made to hold the meeting, a time and place for the meeting should be chosen. You will have to decide whether you will hold your meeting before the primary or the general election. Bear in mind that the pre-primary meeting offers the voters a wider choice of candidates and emphasizes the importance of the primary election where the nominees are chosen.

Set your meeting date as soon after the closing of filing as possible. Keep in mind the publication date of your paper if it is a weekly.

Some Leagues have had the experience that it is "fatal" to set the date on the evening prior to the opening of hunting or fishing seasons, or on a night when there is a championship sports event on TV. It is wise to clear your dates with the heads of the party organizations and to solicit their cooperation.

It may be good psychology to hold the meeting in a place that it is too small, rather than one in which the candidates find themselves speaking to empty seats. (This is not defeatist, but if this is your first candidates meeting, you are bringing a new idea to your community; after the first meeting you may need to find larger facilities for future meetings.) Past experience will be a practical guide to a decision on the meeting place. Inexperienced Leagues will find more encouragement if they start small.

2. Publicity

Stimulating interest in the meeting is a challenge for the Public Relations Committee and work should be started early. There should be eye-appealing early announcements in the newspapers, publicity on radio and TV; distribution of flyers naming time, date, place, candidates to be present and the pertinent issues to be discussed.

3. Inviting the Candidate

Before the invitations are sent out, you will have decided whether to have all candidates or candidates for only certain offices. Be certain all opposing candidates for the same office are invited and that invitations are extended at the same time. Invitations may be made by letter or telephone. If by telephone, the invitation should be confirmed in writing. Many Leagues send the invitation by registered mail so that there can be no question as to whether it was received. Include in the invitation information on the purpose of the meeting; the date, time and place; any rules which the candidate should know such as time limits, whether he may send a substitute, whether questions from the audience will be permitted, whether he may bring campaign literature, the questions to which all candidates will speak. It is a good idea to enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for the candidate's convenience in replying.

Some Leagues plan their meetings so that questionnaires (see pages 10 - 13 in Give the Voter A Hand for information on use and purpose of questionnaires) may be sent with the invitations. This means only one mailing for the candidate, to whom time and energy are most important during the campaign.

4. The Moderator

The choice of a moderator is very important. Best of all is a League member because she is thoroughly familiar with the non-partisan principles of the League and will deal with the candidates in an impartial manner. If you feel it is necessary to go outside of the League, choose a person who commands the respect of the community and one conversant with the non-partisan principles of the League.

The moderator should be someone who can make the meeting fun as well as informative and who is firm enough to keep the meeting controlled without being severe. It must be made clear to the candidates and audience that this is an opportunity for constructive discussion of the candidates' qualifications and stands on issues, not for personal disputes.

III. THE MEETING ITSELF...The Serving

A. Suggested program form for the meeting

1. Welcome by League President stating League purpose and policies and introducing moderator.
2. Rules of the meeting given by moderator.
3. Speeches by opposing candidates for the same office.
4. Rebuttals.
5. Questions from the floor.
6. Thanks by the League president.
7. Social time after the meeting for the citizens to meet and converse informally with the candidates.

B. Order of presentation of candidates

The order in which the candidates are to be presented must be determined first according to office and then according to candidate for that office.

The decision as to office may be made arbitrarily by putting the major candidates first or last, by their position on the ballot, or by lot. The presentation of candidates may be done in alphabetical order or determined by lot.

C. Non-appearance of a candidate

An announcement should be made at the beginning of the meeting that invitations were extended to all opposing candidates for the same office.

It is judicious to refuse permission to the candidate to send either a substitute or a letter if he cannot attend. This is not considered fair to those who have made the effort to come.

If a major candidate is unable to attend and the League knows far enough in advance, it is wise to cancel or change the date of the meeting. The importance of the office and the number of candidates invited are factors to be considered before you cancel or change the date. If a candidate does not attend after accepting the invitation, you will have to make the explanation to the audience.

D. A "write-in" candidate

A write-in candidate is one who has not filed for election and qualified in the regular manner but is nominated or elected by the voters' writing his name on the ballot. Once the candidate has qualified through nomination in the primary, he is treated in the same manner as others. Before he has qualified, however, you will have to give him special treatment. If people are aware of a campaign for him, you may feel the voters are interested in his qualifications. At your meeting, rather than to permit the write-in candidate to appear on the platform with candidates who have paid filing fees and expended their own energy in the campaign, it might be better to permit him to rise from his place in the audience to make a brief statement, but not to participate in rebuttal or dominate discussion.

E. Time Limit and question period

It is advisable to set a time limit for speeches, giving equal time to opposing candidates for the same office. The time limit should be based on the number of candidates to be presented and the importance of the office for which they are running. It is better to plan a short meeting and allow more time at the end for informal visiting with the candidates.

A system should be devised for signalling the expiration of time. A bell or minute-minder has been used. Also effective is a person standing when time is up, continuing to stand until the speaker stops. Some Leagues have used cards on which the number of remaining minutes are indicated to the speaker.

The moderator will announce that the meeting is open for questions if such has been your decision. Questions may be oral or written or both. If written questions are used, pencils and paper should be passed. Ask the questioner to include with the question the name of the person to whom the question is directed. League members should stand ready to carry the questions to the moderator or her assistant.

The moderator should make clear that questions, not speeches, are permitted by the audience.

F. RADIO AND TV

Radio and TV programs are becoming more popular as a means of presenting the candidates and the issues and do materially increase the number of people reached. If you plan this type of meeting, explain to your candidates the importance of exact timing. Radio and TV require a more careful working out of each detail so the program will move smoothly within the allotted time. Be certain the moderator has the complete script or plan for the program, the names of the candidates, the issues to be discussed and short preliminary and closing paragraphs. A statement on non-partisanship should be made at both beginning and end of each program.

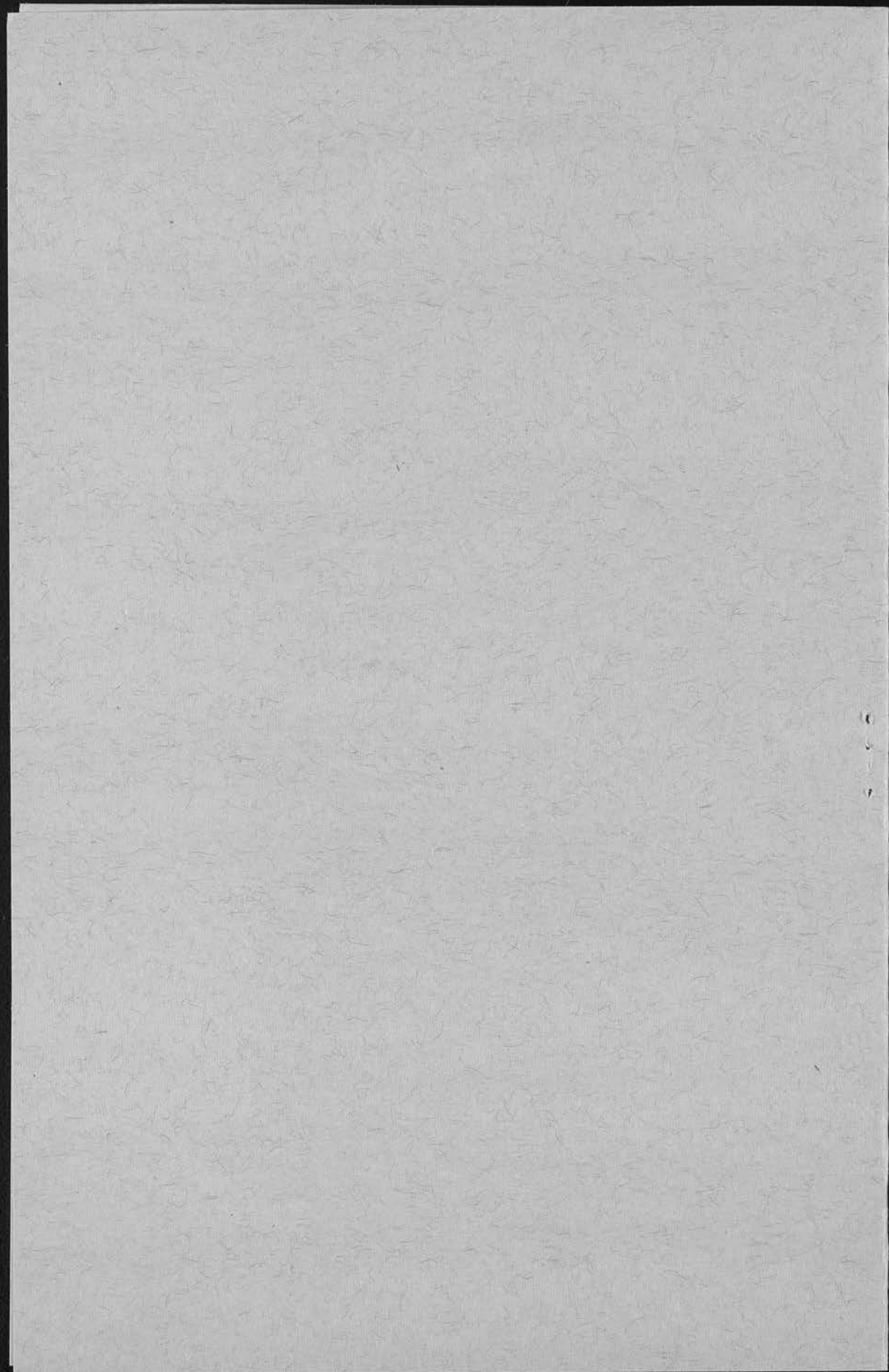
Though these two media reach more citizens, they lack the personal meeting with the candidate and the opportunity of spontaneous questioning afforded by audience participation. The lack of audience participation can be counteracted by various techniques such as 1) asking the citizens to send in questions they would like used; 2) allowing citizens to call in questions during the program; 3) setting up listening groups to continue the discussion after the program is over; 4) taping or filming a regular candidates meeting.

IV. THE GARNISH

What other Leagues have done to add spice:

- a. A parade with posters announcing date, time and place of meeting, preceded by the local Drum and Bugle Corps. This might be done a few hours before the scheduled meeting as a reminder.
- b. A high school band concert in the business district.
- c. A Theatre-in-the-Round meeting. This setting is very conducive to informality. The citizens sit on the same floor level as the candidates. (This type of meeting would not work well with a large audience.)

- d. A County Fair type of meeting using the idea of booths, with all opposing candidates for the same office sharing a booth or each candidate having his own booth. If possible, obtain pictures of the candidates to place in the booths. The Fair type of meeting gives the voters an opportunity to meet personally with their candidates and discuss issues in which they are interested. You may want to set a time limit for the voters' visits in the booths. You could also set up a League booth with League publications, where coffee could be served.
- e. An informal coffee party and discussion meeting is particularly good for local or school board candidates where the election is not a controversial one. This can promote better relations between the voter and the candidate.
- f. A Progressive Candidates Meeting in which the candidates move from one coffee party to another. You would have to set time limits and be sure that the candidates arrived at all parties so that all candidates were heard.
- g. A panel of questioners might be used to bring out the issues at a candidates meeting where only a few candidates were present. Later, questions might be asked from the audience.
- h. The moderator could introduce the candidate with biographical information obtained from him, thus saving much valuable time that can better be spent on issues.
- i. Large brightly painted posters taped to the trunks of members' cars, announcing the meeting have been used to stimulate interest in the meeting.



FILE COPY

Political Education Leaflets

No. 3

The Presidential Election

Published by

THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS

321 Meyers Arcade

Minneapolis

Reprint September 1920

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

Before the ratification of the federal suffrage amendment in August, 1920, gave the women of all states the right to vote on exactly the same terms as men, the Minnesota legislature by special act in 1919 had already extended to the women of this state the right to vote for presidential electors.

The Presidential election presents some puzzling complications, due to the fact that the method laid down in the Federal Constitution has been outgrown and set aside in actual practice. It may indeed be said that every President of the United States must be elected twice, first by popular vote, and secondly by the presidential electors in the manner prescribed by the Constitution. This second election is a mere formality and is of no practical concern to the voter.

POLITICAL PARTIES AND THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

The Presidential election means much more than the filling of the highest office in the gift of the American people. It determines, for the four-year period of the Presidential term, which shall be the dominant political party in the national administration and in the guidance of foreign policy. Moreover, the party which is successful in the election of its Presidential candidate usually controls a majority in at least the lower house of Congress.

In the development of our government, the tendency has been steadily in the direction of centralization, and the power of the chief executive has accordingly greatly increased. At the same time, the President, with his large powers of appointment and of influencing Congress in the actual shaping of legislation, has come to be recognized more and more as the leader of his party. About his election, therefore, are centered the activities of the great national political parties, a fact which should be borne in mind in studying the subject.

PRELIMINARY STEPS—LOCAL CONVENTIONS

In some states the voters have a chance at the primary elections to express a preference for candidates for the presidency just as they have for candidates for other offices. In Minnesota, however, the presidential preferential primary law has been repealed, throwing the whole matter of preliminaries to the national conventions largely into the hands of the state and local committees of the political parties. The result has been a return in 1920 to the old system of party caucuses or local conventions, substantially as follows:

DELEGATES TO COUNTY CONVENTIONS are selected at township or precinct caucuses, called by the authorized party committee. The voter is entitled to attend the local caucus of the party with which he is in general sympathy.

COUNTY CONVENTIONS select delegates to the congressional district and state conventions.

THE DISTRICT AND STATE CONVENTIONS select delegates to the national convention. Two delegates are selected for each Representative and Senator to which the state is entitled in Congress. Minnesota, with two Senators and ten Representatives, therefore elects twenty-four delegates to the national convention.

It has been the practice of the Republican Party to select its four delegates-at-large at the state convention and to select the others at district conventions. The Democratic Party does not hold separate district conventions, but the delegates to the state convention from the various counties in each district meet to select the district delegates.

The delegates thus selected are sent to the national convention with more or less binding instructions as to the candidates they are to support for the nomination.

NOMINATION—THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

Candidates for the office of President and Vice-President are nominated at the national convention of each political party. The convention is called by the party National Committee and is composed, as we have seen, of delegates from the various states.

The convention also adopts a statement of principles and pledges which is supposed to outline the policy the party will carry out if successful at the ensuing election. This statement is called the platform.

It is the practice in the Democratic convention for each state to vote as a unit—that is, to throw the votes of the entire delegation for the same candidate, whereas the theory of the Republican convention has been that each delegate may vote independently of other delegates from his state. In the Republican convention a bare majority in the votes is sufficient for the nomination of a candidate. In the Democratic convention a two-thirds vote has always been required for nomination, but it is possible that this requirement may be modified.

THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE of each party is charged with the direction of the campaign, which follows the nomination of the candidates. This Committee is composed of one member from each state, chosen by the state delegation to the national convention.

The national committee selects the national headquarters, issues enormous quantities of literature, sends out speakers, tries to enlist and hold the support of the press, and is responsible for the disbursement of the large funds contributed to the campaign. The efforts of the campaign managers are largely concentrated in the so-called "doubtful" states, where the election may be won or lost by very slight pluralities.

ELECTION

The Federal Constitution requires that each state, in a manner to be directed by the state legislature, shall appoint a number of electors, equal to the number of Senators and Representatives to which the state is entitled in Congress, who shall meet in their respective states to vote for President and Vice-President.

This provision is complied with, but in such a way as to insure the election of the candidates nominated by one of the political parties.

Each party prepares in each state a list of candidates for Presidential electors equal to the total number of electors to which the state is entitled. In Minnesota this list may be made up by the State Central Committee or at the state convention as the Committee directs. In any case the electors are pledged in advance to vote for the party nominees and in case they are elected they are morally—and in some states legally—bound to do so. The electors, therefore, exercise no power of choice whatever and their office is merely honorary.

The election of Presidential electors—the popular and actual election of the President—takes place on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November at the time of the regular general election.

For the convenience of the voter the names of the nominees for President appear on the ballot as well as the candidates for presidential electors. In Minnesota the ballot is so arranged that one check is sufficient to vote for all twelve electoral candidates of any one party. The following section from the Minnesota presidential ballot for 1916 makes this clear:

PRESIDENTIAL BALLOT

VOTE ONCE OPPOSITE GROUP



For Presiden- tial Electors	WALTER N. CARROLL	EDWIN MATTSON	Republican— HUGHES	
	M. C. CUTTER	ED. M. MELLGREN		
	JOHN A. DALZELL	CHARLES J. MOOS		
	F. A. GUDERIAN	PETER SCHAEFER		
	GUY V. HOWARD	J. S. SCRIBNER		
	JAMES A. LARSON	W. H. WESCOTT		
For Presiden- tial Electors	MAL D. CLARK	W. V. KANE	Democrat— WILSON	
	CHARLES L. CONGER	GEO. A. O'DONNELL		
	HOWARD EVERETT	JAMES B. ORMOND		
	GEORGE GLOTZBACH	JOHN E. STRYKER		
	ROBERT W. HARGADINE	MERRILL C. TIFFT		
	J. E. HENNESSY	A. P. YNGVE		

The successful candidate, no matter how small the margin may be, thus receives the entire electoral vote of the state. Under this system of casting the entire electoral vote of each state for a single candidate, without regard to the size of the minority vote, it is possible to elect a President of the United States by less than a majority of the popular vote, and this has in fact occurred in several instances.

MEETING OF THE ELECTORS

On the second Monday in January following the election, the electors in each state meet to vote by ballot for President and Vice-President—that is, for the candidates nominated by the party they represent and which has been successful at the November election. In Minnesota the electors meet at the State Capitol in St. Paul.

The votes cast by the electors are sent to the president of the Senate. On the second Wednesday in February, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, they are formally opened and the candidate receiving a majority of the total electoral vote is declared duly elected.

In case no candidate receives a majority of the total electoral vote, the election of the President then devolves upon the House of Representatives. For this purpose each state is entitled to one vote only, and the President must be elected by a majority vote from the three candidates who received the highest number of electoral votes.

The election of a President by the House of Representatives has occurred only twice in the history of the United States, but it is likely to occur at any election when the votes are divided among several candidates.

YOU MAY VOTE FOR PRESIDENT IN 1920

Dates for the local primaries and conventions leading up to the national conventions have already been set by the two major parties in Minnesota. Both parties invite you to participate in these important preliminaries to the Presidential election.

IT IS TIME TO THINK OF YOUR PART

REPUBLICAN PARTY

Primaries* in every election district MARCH 15

County Conventions MARCH 17

District Conventions MARCH 19

(Except the Fourth and Fifth District Conventions, which will be held immediately after, and at the same place as, the Ramsey and Hennepin County Conventions, respectively.)

State Convention, St. Paul MARCH 20

National Convention, Chicago JUNE 8

*The Republican call announces that ballots will be provided at these primaries enabling voters to indicate their preference as to the Republican Presidential candidates.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Primaries

The arrangement of primaries in the various election districts is left to the county committees. In Ramsey County and Hennepin County, for example, it is announced that primary elections for the selection of delegates to the county conventions will be held from 7:30 to 8:30, Thursday evening, APRIL 1.

County Conventions APRIL 3

State Convention, Minneapolis APRIL 6

National Convention, San Francisco JUNE 28

Watch your local papers closely for announcements as to the conduct of party primaries in your own district.

This schedule is designed to supplement the enclosed reference leaflet, describing the conduct of a Presidential election.

Issued for the information of
the newly-enfranchised women of this state
by

THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN
VOTERS

321-323 Meyers Arcade, Minneapolis, Minn.

March 2, 1920.

The League of Women Voters

is on the job 365 days in the year

to supply you with

Political Facts Without Partisan Bias

The woman in the home

The woman in business

The woman in industry

needs for the sake of her job

to be an Intelligent Voter.

The League of Women Voters Can Help You Be One

JOIN

The Minnesota League of Women Voters

Miss Marguerite M. Wells, President

1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis

I wish to help in the work of the League of Women Voters and to profit by its informational service by becoming a member.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

(Membership fee includes 25 cents for the MINNESOTA WOMAN VOTER issued monthly from state League headquarters.)



Measure the Men Who May Represent You In the Most Important Congress In Our Country's History

Here Is a Yardstick

Would they be leaders or only followers of public opinion?

Would they put national interests before party interests?

Would they put winning the war above all other considerations?

Would they have ability and determination to help create a just and lasting peace?

**IF YOUR PRESENT CONGRESSMEN HAVE NOT SHOWN
THESE ESSENTIAL QUALITIES WHY NOT REPLACE THEM?**

You Still Have Time

- Find people that agree with you.
 - Find the man who could do the job.
 - Ask him to run.
 - Get to work and elect him.
-

**The fate of our country—in war or in
peace—will rest on the men elected to
the next Congress**

Protect Your Rights!

VOTE YES

On Amendment No. 2

HERE IS WHAT AMENDMENT 2 WILL DO:

1. It will make certain that if a new constitution is drawn up by a convention of elected delegates that you will have the right to vote for its approval or rejection. Our present constitution lacks this provision.
2. It will allow any citizen of Minnesota, including legislators, to compete for election as delegate to a constitutional convention. Our present constitution prevents legislators from serving. (Delegates to a constitutional convention are elected by the people of each legislative district in the same way and number of members of the Minnesota House of Representatives.)

These organizations support Amendment No. 2

Duluth Federated Trades and Labor Assembly
Good Government Group of Minneapolis
Leagues of Women Voters of Minnesota
Machinists Non-Partisan Political League
Minnesota Bar Association
Minneapolis Central Labor Union
Minnesota Farmers Union
National Council of Jewish Women
Republican State Central Committee
St. Paul Trades & Labor Assembly

Vote YES November 4

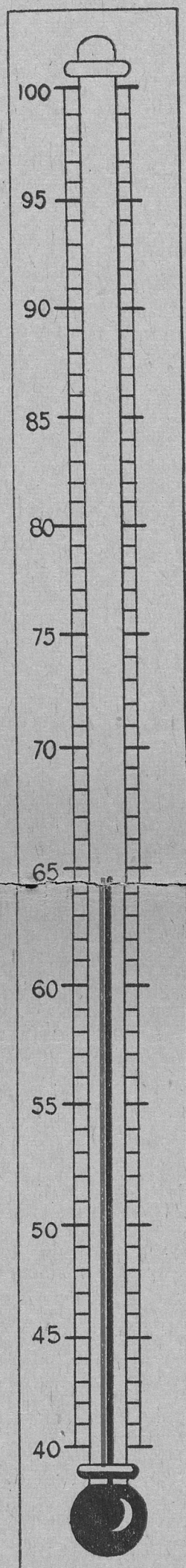
Failure to vote is a NO VOTE

The Thermometer of Civic Spirit

IN MINNESOTA

Showing the percentage of persons voting in
YOUR COMMUNITY in 1920 compared with
the total eligible vote of 100%.

WHERE DO YOU STAND?



PRIMARY ELECTION JUNE 16

"A VOTE IN THE PRIMARY IS

WORTH TWO IN THE ELECTION"

Help Raise the Average VOTE!

League of Women Voters

FILE COPY

Citizenship Leaflets

No. 2

Elections in Minnesota

Published by

The Minnesota League
of Women Voters

321 Meyers Arcade

Minneapolis

January 1920

WHO CAN VOTE?

Any male citizen of the United States who is 21 years old is entitled to vote in Minnesota, provided he has resided in the state six months and in the election district 30 days next preceding the election, and provided he is neither criminal nor insane.

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to its jurisdiction, are citizens of the United States.

Women in Minnesota having the same qualifications as men are entitled to vote for school officers, members of library boards, and for presidential electors.

Each state determines the qualifications of voters within its own territory. The power of determining who may vote for presidential electors, however, is left by the Federal Constitution to the state legislatures. It is for this reason that the Minnesota legislature, in spite of provisions in our state constitution limiting suffrage on all but school and library questions to men, was able in 1919 to pass a law granting presidential suffrage to women.

An amendment to the Federal Constitution, similar to that passed after the Civil War to enfranchise the negro, was passed by Congress in June, 1919, and provides that the right to vote shall not be denied to any citizen of the United States on account of sex. The Minnesota legislature ratified this amendment in special session (September, 1919). When ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths (36) of the states, and not until then, the amendment will become effective and women throughout the United States will be entitled to vote on exactly the same terms as men.

DATES OF ELECTIONS

GENERAL ELECTIONS for choosing federal, state and county officers are held every even numbered year, as follows:

Primaries—Third Monday in June.

Finals—First Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS for choosing city officers are held in the various cities at times specified in their charters or prescribed by law. In villages and towns elections for choosing municipal officers are commonly held at the time of the annual town meeting, the second Tuesday in March.

SPECIAL ELECTIONS may be held at other times for the purpose of filling certain offices if they become vacant or for voting on propositions authorized by law to be submitted at such election.

ELECTION DISTRICTS AND ELECTION BOARDS

For election purposes each township constitutes at least one election district. Cities are divided into election districts, or precincts, each containing about 400 male voters. Elections in each district are conducted by an election board, made up of judges and clerks appointed by the city council, town board, or otherwise. The election board serves also as a board of registration.

REGISTRATION

In order that only duly qualified persons may vote, a list of qualified voters is made up in advance of election.

In larger cities (1st, 2nd and 3rd class), the voter must attend to registration in person. Registration days are duly appointed and announced. Any person intending to vote at the next election must present himself on such day at the regular polling place, prepared to state on oath his age, sex, color, residence, length of residence in the state and in the election district, and, if a naturalized citizen, the dates of naturalization.

In smaller cities and rural districts the registration list is prepared by the board of registration, using the poll lists of the last election as a basis. If at the time of the election the voter can satisfy the judges as to his qualifications he is allowed to vote, even though his name does not appear on the registration list.

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES PRIMARIES OR PRIMARY ELECTIONS

Candidates for elective offices are nominated at primary elections, usually called primaries.

Candidates for office must file application for a place on the primary election ballot with the secretary of state or the county auditor, at a stated time prior to the primary, in a manner prescribed by law. State ballots are prepared by the secretary of state, all other ballots by the county auditor.

CANDIDATES NOMINATED ON A NON-PARTISAN BALLOT:

The following are nominated and elected on a non-partisan ballot, that is to say "without designation of party":

City officers.

County officers.

Judges.

Members of the state legislature.

The party affiliation of such candidates does not appear on the ballot, and the voter is entitled to vote such ballot without reference to his own party affiliation.

The two candidates receiving the highest number of votes for a given office are declared nominated for that office.

CANDIDATES NOMINATED ON PARTY TICKETS:

State officers, except judges and members of the legislature.

Members of Congress.

To vote at the primaries for candidates running on a party ticket, the voter may be required to state his party affiliation—that is, the party he generally supported at the last election and intends to support at the next. Separate ballots

are prepared for the candidates of each political party, and the voter is entitled to vote the ballot of one party only.

The candidate in each party receiving the highest number of votes for a given office is declared the nominee of his party for that office.

VOTING

On entering the polling place the voter is required to give his name, which is checked off with the registration lists. The political parties are entitled to have "challengers" at each polling place to see that only duly qualified persons are permitted to vote. If no question is raised as to his qualifications or party affiliation, the voter receives his ballots and enters a private booth to mark them in secret.

FINAL ELECTION

Preliminary registration is necessary as for the primaries, but those who voted at the primaries may vote at the final election without further registration. For those who failed to vote at the primaries a day for registration is appointed prior to the election.

At final elections the various political parties do not have separate ballots as at the primaries, but all the nominees for a given office are grouped together and the voter has the privilege of dividing his vote without regard to party affiliation.

ABSENT VOTING

If absent from the election district at the time of the election, the voter may apply to the county auditor for a ballot to be delivered by mail to the judges of his own election district on election day. Such ballot must be accompanied by a proper affidavit as prescribed by law.

CORRUPT PRACTICES

To safeguard elections, false registration, fraudulent voting, intimidation of voters, bribery, or any improper interference with voting are made subject to severe penalties, some of these offences being classed as felonies.

Expenses incurred in election campaigns are also subject to control by law. Candidates for office and treasurers of campaign committees are required to file with the county auditor a statement of funds received for campaign purposes and the way in which they have been expended.

Note: The election laws of the state are subject to constant change at each session of the legislature. The latest summary is the 1917 edition of "General Election Laws of Minnesota," published by the Office of the Secretary of State. Recent changes are contained in the statutes passed by the 1919 regular and special sessions of the Legislature.

It is not necessary for the ordinary voter to burden his memory with the details of election machinery. Sufficient notice and publicity is given at the time of elections.

FILE COPY

VOTE!

You Can't Escape the Ballot Box

It Follows You Home!

VOTES DECIDE

public health, taxes, schools, libraries, roads, police, fire, water,
playgrounds, parks, traffic, markets,* weights and measures, food
inspection, sanitation, garbage disposal, public utilities, reformatories,
prisons, charities . . . peace and war.

If You Dont Vote, Who Will?

November 2 is the Day

JOIN

The League of Women Voters

Ask them for

**political facts without partisan bias
and**

When You Vote---Vote Intelligently

MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

1639 Hennepin Avenue

Minneapolis, Minn.

The Real American

I have something, folks, to tell you,
Please kindly make a note,
In every town and city
Is the man "who doesn't vote,"
He's the busy man, the lazy man,
The man who doesn't care,
He's the man who sniffs at "politics"
With his nostrils in the air.
But there's just one real American
In all this troubled land ---
You'll find him this November
With his ballot in his hand.

Minnesota League of Women Voters

S L O G A N S
TO BE WRITTEN ON BLACKBOARD

(Please leave in booth)

SLOGANS FOR BLACKBOARD USE AT COUNTY FAIRS

1. There are two kinds of citizen: voters and slackers. Which are you? ✓
2. Want to know anything about voting? Ask the League of Women Voters.
3. Half of us don't care enough for our country to vote for it.
4. We are ruled not by a majority of all of us but by a majority of less than half of us.
5. The man or woman who fails to vote is as guilty as the guard who sleeps on duty.
6. Public opinion is the combined opinion of individuals - what contribution have you made?
7. Do you care for your children's future? Vote!
8. The food your husband eats does not feed you. When he votes, can he vote for two?
9. "Home-keeping hearts are Happiest" (Longfellow)
Longfellow died before taxes went up.
10. Indifference is more dangerous than ignorance or dishonesty.
Non-voters are indifferent.
11. Non-voters take the advantages and shirk the duties of citizenship.
12. When few vote, elections may be easily swung for personal gain.
13. Minority vote is a controlled vote, it puts the power in the hands of the machine rather than of the people.
14. We are not ruled by a majority if scarcely a majority vote.
15. We are ruled today by something more than a quarter of the voters.
16. It is the duty of citizens to put good men in office. If you do not vote you shirk this duty.
17. The least you can do is to vote for those who will serve your country well.
18. Patriotism is not so much dying for your country as voting for it. ✓
19. Your vote is the motor force in our democracy.
20. It's a duty not only to your party but to your country to vote. shelter.
21. Voting is just as essential to your child's welfare as food and/
22. Mobilize to vote! Mobilization day for citizenship November 4th.

The descending curve of American democracy - Can we turn it up again?

In 1896	80	per	cent	of	the	voters	cast	ballots
In 1900	73	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
In 1908	66	"	"					
In 1912	62	"	"					
In 1920	Less than 50 per cent							

Suggested Rhymes

Which shall it be--which shall it be
Bob or John or Calvin C.
Read their platforms--take good note
Then by heck be sure to vote or
(Study up and be sure to vote)

1.
What country is so great and grand
Where freedom first did take her stand
And everyone may own some land
America--merica.

2.
Who is it rules this country great
Who keeps its laws right up to date
And safely guides the ship of State
The people--oh the people.

3.
But if the people careless grow
And out to vote forget to go
Who then will rule us
Don't you know
The bosses--oh the bosses

Democrat, Republican, Progressive, too
Use your vote--it belongs to you.

Riddle

What is that everybody has but is no good until its used and
the more its used the stronger it grows.
Answer: The Vote.

Slogans

Oil The wheels of government. Vote!
Scandal In the 10th ward--124 people failed to vote.

N.B. Write the word OIL first in large letters and then immediately
write Scandal underneath it in large letters.

Stop Long enough to vote November 4th
Look To the issues involved
Listen To the candidates and learn their record.

Political arithmetic--Find the sum of 5 women ~~and~~ who do not
vote and 10 men who do not vote.
Answer: SLACKERS

Second problem: If it took Illinois years to reduce 118
state boards down to 17 how long will it take
the state of Minnesota to reduce 90 boards?
Answer: Not long if we all vote to demand it.
Second ~~xxxxxxxx~~ question: Will this be a saving in taxes?
Answer: We say it will.

Minnesota League of Women Voters,
914 Marquette Ave., Minneapolis
October 1940

FILE COPY

SUGGESTIONS FOR CONDUCTING A CANDIDATES' MEETING

When a meeting has been determined upon, send a letter of invitation to all of the candidates for the office concerned, naming the hour and place, explaining the character of the meeting, and requesting a reply. It should be explained that in case any candidate is unable to appear the candidates present at the meeting will be allowed to speak; also that no substitutes will be permitted.

Give publicity to the invitations through the press, making sure that editors are supplied with a statement of the League's policy in arranging the meeting.

Follow up the letters of invitation to make sure that they have been received by the candidates. This is a matter of fairness because the failure of a candidate to respond may be a subject of unfavorable comment at the meeting.

Open the meeting with a brief statement of its object and the terms under which it will be conducted. If any of the candidates are absent, explain that each was given exactly the same opportunity to appear. The presiding officer should be fair and courteous and at the same time able to deal with difficult situations from the platform with dignity and decision.

Explain that each candidate is to have the same number of minutes to speak and that the time-keeper will signal one minute before the expiration of his time.

Candidates may be asked to draw lots to determine the order in which they will speak. Much good feeling and spirit may be injected into the meeting by skillful handling of such details.

Request that there be no applause following a speaker.

It is most advisable that none of the candidates be allowed to display or distribute campaign literature.

The one rule for candidates' meetings is: BE FAIR.

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October 1942

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What is meant by state reorganization?

Answer: We suggest you ask your candidates for governor.

Political Geography.

What state in the Union had the biggest vote in 1920?

Answer:

What state had the smallest vote?

Answer:

What vote did the best state in the Union--Minnesota--have?

Answer:

Will you help Minnesota bring in the vote?

We need ~~225,000~~ ^{924,000} voters to bring our state up to 75 percent.

Arithmetic

There are

voters in the United States

You are 1

only a fraction but be a proper fraction and vote.

How strong is the chain of voters?

As strong as its weakest link.

Don't be a weak link.

Political Grammar

What is wrong with this sentence?

Oh one more vote won't make any difference, I guess I'll stay home.

Fill in the blanks in this sentence with the proper words:

If you are a citizen you will .

If only 9 percent of the people elect a man to Congress what attention will be paid the wishes of the other 91 percent.

Political History

How long did Washington and the other patriots FIGHT to win for us the RIGHT to vote.

Answer: 8 long years--the least we can do is to use that vote.

How far can a Ford run on one half of one gallon?

How far can the government run on only one half the voters.

What will happen if people keep on neglecting to vote.

Why--half of us will be ruling the whole of us.

Political Physiology

What disease is indicated by low civic temperature and complete loss of memory on election day?

Answer: Poor circulation of red patriotic blood or possibly defective valves in the head.

What would you prescribe as a remedy?

Answer: A stiff dose of practical politics with votes taken every two years.

Political Etiquette

If one meets a friend who has not registered or voted what is the polite thing to do?

Answer: ~~Wink~~ The indifferent one should be dealt with firmly but gently--it is considered very smart in our best circles to offer to accompany him or her to the polling place. Or again it is perfectly permissible to use the telephone in reminding him or her.

Political Canning

Don't can the candidates--sometimes it is better to pan him and keep him.

It will be found almost impossible to seal them perfectly. Don't mind a little gas--that is to be expected this time of year.

A nice assortment for your political pantry the coming winter will be as follows:

Child labor amendment
Study of the primary
State Reorganization
Party platforms
Tariff
Taxes

Slogans

Put vim and vigor in your vote
Study up--Don't vote by rote.

Are you interested in politics?
Yes, if you're interested in living.

Why--

The bread we eat--likewise the meat;
The schools our children go to

Limericks

Limericks in which the first few lines are given and the audience may be asked to fill in the last line as herein suggested:

The last line should contain the word vote.

Our country belongs to us all
We must help it to stand or to fall
Don 't leave to a few
The thing you should do
(But be sure to vote wisely this fall)

There was a wise woman named Brown
Who knew all that went on in the town
Kept her house neat as wax is
But knew all about taxes
(And voted to help keep them down)

A farmer worked early and late
And his wheat and his corn turned out great
But he doesn't know yet
What price he will get
(He'd better vote to cooperate)

A farmer worked early and late
But luck seemed to be his sad fate
But when harvest was over
He was in clover
(So he voted the old ticket straight)

There was a young girl from the city
Who was wise and handsome and witty
She knew how to bake
A marvelous cake
(But she never would vote--what a pity)

Do you want good laws for your state
And good men to govern it straight
Then don't stand and balk
And do nothing but talk
(Study up--use your vote and you pate) or
(Use your vote and keep up to date)

SLOGANS

Bad laws are made by good women who don't vote! ✓

Why grumble about taxes when you don't take the trouble to vote?

80 percent of voters in England voted at the last election

40 percent of voters in the United States voted at the last election

Which is a Democracy?

Nobody can lead a large vote by the nose

Designing men can get bad measures through
When few people go to the polls

Snowball Your Vote! Get another to vote---

2 get 2 16 get 16

4 get 4 32 get 32

8 get 8 64 get 64

You got 128 votes cast!

Good people don't vote if it rains

Those who have something to put over, vote rain or shine

Giving up time and energy to help better government
is every bit as patriotic as helping in time of war.

~~xxxxxxxxxx~~

Failure to vote invites Failure in Government

These ideas were successfully used at the St. Cloud fair.

Wanted-a million more people to vote in Minnesota. Then only 75 per cent of possible vote will be cast.

ATTENTION - every woman. Go to the polls and take another with you.

ATTENTION - every church. Remind the congregation that it is their duty to vote.

ATTENTION - every club. Check up a list and get out every vote

(Keep the word "Attention" and erase a, substitute, b and any other you think of)

"In this country the people rule". Do they? No!

Less than half the people rule. The rest are ruled because they don't take the trouble to vote.

STOLEN - by a minority, the right to fix taxes. Come out and vote so it can't happen again.

DANGER to the country. 51 per cent of voters stayed away from polls in 1920. Warn people to vote in 1924.

Minnesota's affairs should be governed not by a few citizens but by all.
(You can erase Minnesota and write in U. S. or any special county)

READ

The Woman Voter

(25c Per Year)

During

1924 — Presidential Election Year — 1924

For Effective Participation in Party Affairs
For Intelligent Voting in Every Election

JOIN

The Minnesota League of Women Voters

(Educational - Unpartisan)

Every Woman a League Member
Every League Member an Informed Voter

Notice! 1924 Voter Subscription Contest!

In order to encourage intelligent interest in elections and questions of public interest through the pages of *The Woman Voter*, a prize of \$25 has been offered, to be awarded to the congressional district (outside of the Twin Cities) reporting the largest number of Voter subscriptions, new or renewed, before March 25.

.....

Record of Subscription and Membership Enrollment

I hereby subscribe to *The Woman Voter* (25c per year).

.....

.....

I hereby enroll as a member of the Minnesota League of Women Voters.

Please check the type of membership desired:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Simple enrolled membership | <input type="checkbox"/> No dues. |
| State sustaining membership | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1.00 and up including <i>The Woman Voter</i> . |
| Joint local and state membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Amount fixed by Local League. |

Please tear off this end and mail to

THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis

Minnesota League of Women Voters,
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis
J u l y 1 9 2 4

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In 1908	66	"	"					
In 1912	62	"	"					
In 1920	Less	than	50	per	cent			

Note: - For additional slogans see Get-Out-the-Vote campaign text-book
(price 15cents) pp. 24 - 37.

Questionnaire on
PARTY CAUCUSES AND CONVENTIONS

Reported by _____ Address _____

Party caucus attended _____ Party convention attended _____

Two types of nominating machinery are in operation in Minnesota: the direct primary for the nomination of all elected officials; the convention, for the selection of delegates to help nominate the presidential candidates and to name the officials in the party organizations. In February and March, the first step of the long climb to the national party conventions will be taken, the only one that all party members are privileged to take - that is, voting in the party precinct caucuses.

The League of Women Voters wishes to encourage women to learn, by participation in these caucuses, the system by which presidential candidates are chosen and party policies determined. As conscientious voters, as party members seeking real progress for our parties, what is your judgment of this system? What are its advantages, its defects? To help answer these questions, please fill in this questionnaire and get as many women as you can to make a similar report.

1. Was ample notice given of the time and place of the caucus? _____

2. How many voters attended? _____ How many women? _____ How many men? _____

3. Did women serve as chairman, clerk, or judges? _____

4. What kind of ballots were used? _____ How many? _____

Were all made equally available to all the voters? _____

5. Did the caucus begin on time? _____ End on time? _____

6. Were any voters disqualified from voting? _____ For what reasons? _____

7. How many candidates for delegate were women? _____ How many men? _____

How many women were elected? _____ How many men? _____

8. As a party member, do you believe that the caucus tended to bring out a true and intelligent expression of party sentiment? _____

ADDITIONAL REMARKS:

(Use both sides of paper if desired.)

Note: See the Minnesota Woman Voter for February for further dates and information about caucuses and conventions. Copies of this issue and additional questionnaire blanks will be supplied upon request.

ELECTION OF STATE OFFICIALS
Study Outline prepared by Miss Katherine Frederic
of the National League of Women Voters

STATE OFFICERS

Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Railroad and Warehouse Commissioner

These are all elected with party designation on the state ballot

Divide these officials among the various members. The governor, treasurer, and attorney general should each be assigned to one person. Other officers may be grouped for study by one person.

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS FOR EACH OFFICER:

Qualifications for office (citizen, length of residence, etc.)

Length of term

Duties - Be specific and give illustrations; also be able to summarize in one sentence the type of work expected of each officer

Who holds this office at present?

Name the candidates for this office in the November general election

GENERAL QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED BY MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

What is the date of the general election?

What was the date of the primary election for nominating state candidates?

What other candidates were nominated in the primary?

Refer to state primary and election ballots and discuss the proper way to mark them

- - - - -

REFERENCES:

Sample ballots - secure from newspapers or county auditor

Minnesota Election Laws - Secure from Secretary of State

Who's Who and Why in Minnesota State and County Government - order from state office

Outlines in Civil Government for Minnesota by Geo. F. Howard - order from state office - price, 30¢

Minnesota Year Book - published annually by League of Minnesota Municipalities (available in most libraries)

Legislative Manual - called the Blue Book - secure from your representative in the legislature or from Secretary of State

Note: This outline could also be followed for national and local officials

WHAT THE VOTER NEEDS TO KNOW IN 1936

The Election Process

You Should Know

How To Find Out

Registration. In all but a few states you must register in order to vote. Some laws permit registration as late as election day, but advance registration is preferable and required under the best laws. In states with permanent registration laws, voters do not ordinarily have to reregister.

Primaries. Primaries are party elections held (1) to nominate the party candidate for each office and (2) to elect party committeemen. All but four states hold primaries for at least some offices. Southern states often hold a second or "run-off" primary.

Party Conventions. In most states the parties convene to do one or more of the following: adopt the party platform, elect party officials, select delegates to state and national conventions, and select party nominees for certain offices.

Elections. The general election is on November 3, 1936, (first Tuesday after the first Monday) except in Maine where it is on September 14 (second Monday).

Dates for registration in order to vote in primaries and general election.

Residence and other requirements for voting.

Whether you need to reregister. X

Primary dates, hours the polls are open, and regulations for voting.

How to mark a primary ballot.

Whether separate presidential primaries are held in your state to choose delegates to national party conventions.

When party caucuses and conventions are held and how to take part in them.

Requirements for voting.

How to mark a ballot, how to operate a voting machine, how to vote a straight ticket, or a split ticket, how to write in names, and how to cast a ballot.

Consult state election laws, available in most states free of charge from the secretary of state, state capitol, or consult local election officials.

Legal requirements are in state election laws. Party regulations may be secured from state central committee of each party.

Consult state election laws and party regulations.

Consult state election laws and party regulations.

Consult state election laws, also local election officials for any additional regulations.

The Election Process

Elections (continued)

Absentee Registration and Voting. A few states permit registration by mail. Most states permit absentee voting in primaries and elections, but the regulations vary greatly.

Candidates. Candidates must file with the proper officials if their names are to be printed on ballots.

Propositions. 1936 ballots may carry proposed constitutional amendments, initiated measures, and proposals referred to voters.

You Should Know

Regulations protecting secrecy of the ballot and governing orderly conduct of elections.

When assistance may be given to voters unable to mark their own ballots.

Who may be judges, clerks, and watchers at the polls.

Procedure for absentees under your state law.

Who are the candidates for national offices, and for any state and local offices to be filled in 1936.

What the duties of the office are.

The qualifications of candidates.

Candidates' views on important issues related to the office sought.

Arguments for and against adoption.

How to Find Out

Consult state election laws, also local election officials for any additional regulations.

Consult state election laws or election officials.

Secure names from the secretary of state, from county clerks, or other officials responsible for receiving and filing candidates' petitions.

Consult federal and state constitutions and laws, text books, and League of Women Voters handbooks.

Secure information on candidates' records in offices already held, by questionnaires, candidates' meetings, interviews, etc. (See "Suggestions for Pre-election Plans for the League of Women Voters".)

Secure text from secretary of state, county clerks, or other election officers. An official explanation may be published.

National League of Women Voters, 726 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C., February 1936.

Price: Single copy - 5¢; 25 copies - 50¢; 50 copies - 75¢; 100 copies - \$1.00.

POLITICAL PARTY ORGANIZATION IN MINNESOTA

In Minnesota, party activities directed toward the 1940 election begin in March and end with the general election on November 5th. During this period, machinery is also set up for operating the parties between elections.

The direct primary, such as we have in Minnesota, is a party election. It gives party members the opportunity to select from several candidates the one they wish to nominate for each office. In the Minnesota primary, now held in September, each voter receives the same "consolidated" ballot showing under party columns the candidates of each party. The voter must confine his choices to candidates of a single party. In the general election, however, the voter may vote a straight ticket or split his vote, regardless of the way he voted in the primary.

What is a political party? To be recognized as a political party under Minnesota laws, an organization must have:

- 1) maintained a party organization in the state, and
- 2) presented candidates in the preceding general election, at least one of whom shall have been voted for in each county and shall have received in the state not less than 5 per cent of the total vote for all candidates at the election.

If an organization does not meet these legal requirements, it can get its candidates on the general election ballot only by petition.

In a presidential year, conventions of national parties are held in the state for the purpose of naming presidential electors and delegates to the national convention of the party. Other purposes of conventions are to adopt platforms, endorse candidates, and establish permanent party organization.

Party Membership Each party is free to fix its own standards for membership. Usually a person's own statement of his party preference will admit him to participation in party affairs, but other requirements, such as the payment of dues, may be made.

General Characteristics of Party Organization With minor differences, the Democratic, Farmer-Labor and Republican political organizations in Minnesota are set up on similar lines. The common units of organization are the precinct or election district for the Republican and Democratic parties; clubs and affiliated unions for the Farmer-Labor Association; county, congressional district, and state organizations. At each level of party organization above the precinct, there are: delegate conventions, executive or similar continuing committees, and officers elected for specified terms.

In general, the apportionment of delegates to each party convention is based on the vote cast for the party's nominee for Governor at the preceding general state election.

Apportionment of delegates to state conventions: Each party allows each county the same number of delegates at large, and additional delegates for every thousand (or other number, this to be determined by the state committee) votes cast in the county for the party's nominee for Governor. This apportionment system is uniform throughout the state.

Apportionment of delegates to county conventions: a similar system is used but based on a smaller number of votes cast to determine how many delegates each precinct or election district is allowed. F-L delegates are determined as described under PARTY ORGANIZATION, COUNTY.

At county conventions, alternates are also chosen in case delegates cannot attend. The party conventions are open to visitors. The county and district organizations are responsible for conducting campaigns for their respective candidates within the district.

The Republican Party and the Farmer-Labor Association operate under their own constitutions. The Democratic Party and the Farmer-Labor Party, having no constitutions, operate under state law.

The Farmer-Labor Association, although separate from the Farmer-Labor Party and not interpreted legally as a political party, is nevertheless organized for purposes of education and political action. Its membership is limited by its constitution to persons supporting the principles of the Farmer-Labor Party.

The party structure summarized below is somewhat complicated, but it can provide a democratic system whereby every party member may, if he will only take the trouble, help choose his party's delegates and thus determine party policy and leadership.

PARTY ORGANIZATION

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democratic</u>	<u>Farmer-Labor</u>
Convention	After dates have been fixed and "call" has been issued by State Committee. county chairmen of party call for election of delegates to county conventions on a specified day and time.		
Delegates	Each election district holds election (caucus) to elect number to which it is entitled based on Republican vote cast in district at preceding general election.	Same procedure. More often hold "mass" county conventions at which all attending are, by vote of the convention, seated as delegates.	F-L Clubs and affiliated organizations which make up the F-L Assn. each elect delegates on basis of size of membership, with limit on number from a single organization to prevent top-heavy representation by any one group.
Purposes:	1) To elect permanent county officers (e.g., chairman, chairwoman, secretary, treasurer - according to party rule.) 2) To elect delegates and alternates to district and State conventions of the party.		
Central Committee	Party's county officers and such other elected delegates as convention decides upon.		Members of the county committee of the F-L Assn. are elected by the clubs and affiliated organizations.
Committee's	To conduct throughout entire county the campaign for the party's responsibility nominees.		

DISTRICT

Convention	Dates within which they must be held are given in the State "call."		
Delegates	Elected by county conventions of each party		
Purposes:	1) To elect permanent district party officers 2) To elect 2 delegates and 2 alternates from the district to the party's national convention. (National parties only)		

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democratic</u>	<u>Farmer-Labor</u>
Central Committee	Consists of all county chairmen and chairwomen in district. This committee elects district party officers, who constitute the executive committee.	Appointed by district's congressional nominee.	F-L Assn. has large central committee consisting of all delegates elected to state convention from counties within district. The exec. committee consists of 2 delegates from each county central committee plus 3 district officers and 2 committeemen to state committee elected by district convention.
<u>STATE</u>			
Convention	Called by State Committee		
Delegates	Elected by county conventions of each party		
Purposes	1) To elect 4 delegates and 4 alternates at large from state to national convention. 2) To choose presidential electors 3) To draw up or provide for drafting state party platform 4) May (or may not) endorse slate of candidates.		
Central Committee	Consists of all county chairmen and chairwomen, state executive committee, additional representatives from counties casting over 10,000 votes for Republican candidate for Governor (1 for every additional 10,000 votes or major fraction thereof. Party officers elected by county representatives on State Central Committee, meeting immediately after state convention for this purpose	Chosen after primary by party's nominees, as provided in state law for parties without written constitution. Nominees elect party officers. Committee usually includes 2 committeemen from each congressional district. This State Central Committee has power to enlarge itself.	Two central committees: a) State Central Committee of F L Party, chosen by nominees after primary, as provided in state law; b) State Committee of F-L Assn., consists of state Assn. officers elected at state convention, and representatives from each congressional district elected at district conventions. In practice, members of b) are included by party's nominees on a) above.
Executive Committee	Consists of state party officers, national committee man and committee woman, a man and woman from each congressional district (elected at district convention) plus 3 men appointed by state chairman and 3 women appointed by state chairwoman.	State central committee provides for state executive committee	State party officers, plus 3 additional members elected by and from State Central Committee of F-L Assn.

Representation at National Conventions

Democratic - Four delegates (and alternates) at large, elected at State Convention, plus 2 delegates (and alternates) for each congressional district, elected at the District conventions - 22 in all, or 2 for each member in Congress.

Republican - Four delegates (and alterates) at large, elected at State Convention. One delegate (and alternate) from each Congressional district, plus additional delegates based on Republican vote in State. At present Minnesota is entitled to 22 delegates, four chosen at large, and 18 at district conventions, two from each district.

References:

Constitutions of the Republican Party of Minnesota and the Farmer-Labor Association

Minnesota Election Laws (available from Secretary of State, St. Paul)

On the Direct Primary:

Selecting Party Candidates, Natl. LWV, 5 cents

Of, By and For the People, A J Beveridge (on loan from League office)

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. At what points can the individual party member participate in party affairs?
Do the members of the Democratic, Farmer-Labor and Republican parties have similar opportunities?
2. When will the different party conventions be held in 1940:
in your county?
in your congressional district?
in the state?
3. Do all these conventions adopt platforms? If not, which do? How are these platforms prepared?
4. How can the voter find out about the qualifications of the various candidates before going to vote in the primary?

FILE COPY

MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
914 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis

August 5th,
1942

Dear Local League President:

Now is the time for all good citizens to come to the aid of their country! This is a rally cry for pre-election activity. Our congressional campaign reaches its climax and there is a job for every member. Please read this letter carefully and check the items to see that you have not omitted any step. There must be a large vote and there must be a wise vote. The League has a big job.

MATERIAL

Congressional broadside You have been sent the new flier-broadside: - "Your Vote will help make the future." It stresses the importance of the individual's vote and the primary, and tells the duties of Congress. For discussion at a meeting, we suggest the following articles amplifying the broadside;

Kirk's Test for Congressmen - July Members' Magazine

Politics in War-Time - Chicago Round Table, May 3rd (League office - 10¢)

Significant Roll Calls - LWV - 3¢

Also watch current newspapers and magazines for articles and editorials.

Get this broadside into many hands - go way beyond your usual distribution of broadsides. Reorder from us. Special low price - 50 cents a hundred.

Voters Instructions We enclose a copy of the instructions prepared by the Minneapolis League which could be easily adapted to your own community.

Legislative Questionnaire This is material you may wish to gather, using the questions enclosed. No questionnaire will be sent from state headquarters to candidates for the legislature. Interview your candidates (after the primaries if you feel swamped by the number of candidates) and make the answers available to the public. Ask the candidate if he followed the discussion regarding the legislative council last session or if he would like material on it.

Congressional questionnaires All candidates for Congress are being contacted and asked to give their views on five basic questions. The answers from the candidates in your district will be sent you when received, and you plan what use to make of them - how to get the information to the public.

MEETINGS

Public Meetings based on the broadside, on the roll call votes, on the questions in the congressional questionnaire as well as the answers, might be planned, especially in communities where good speakers are available.

Candidates' Meetings (congressional, legislative, county, etc.) if run briskly and presided over ably are well worth while. Instructions for such meetings are available on request.

PUBLICITY

Newspaper Print as much as the papers will take - an account of what your League is doing, the broadside itself, the roll call votes of present incumbents, instructions to voters. The radio spot announcements could also be used for newspapers. If many new people have come in to your community, stress the voting requirements of change of address.

Radio Those Leagues with local radio stations should plan to make full use of this medium from now until election day. Three National League scripts are available on the congressional campaign. A page of spot announcements is enclosed, to which may be added the local requirements. On September 8th, try to have "Have you voted?" or some such phrase, inserted after each program. These spot announcements are also suitable for newspaper use.

Movie Trailers Two trailers are available. One, prepared by the Red Wing League, is based on our "Measure your Congressman" flier. Arrangements for its use may be made through Mrs. Wm. Pearce, 725 West 4th St., Red Wing. Price very low.

The Minneapolis Junior Chamber of Commerce also has a 40 second pictorial "get out the vote" trailer. If there is a local Junior Chamber in your town, ask them to see that it is used in your community. Otherwise, one or more service clubs might joint with you in bringing it to your theatres. Arrangements for booking it may be made through the League office. Probable cost - around \$9.00 a week.

Posters Make and place get out the vote posters in prominent places.

If new people have come in to your community, make an attempt to reach them with information on voting requirements (maybe the congressional broadside as well). For instance, the Minneapolis League is asking all defense plants, and others, to post the instructions to voters on their bulletin boards.

As a check-up on the efficacy of the campaign, find out what percent of the voters voted in your community at the last primary and the mid-term one four years ago and compare it with this year's vote.

A busy and successful month to you!

Sincerely yours,

Helen J. Duff

Mrs. Philip S Duff,
President

Enclosures:

Instructions to Voters
Legislative questionnaire
Radio spot announcements

FILE COPY

MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
914 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis

August 28th,
1942

Dear Local League President:

The accompanying letter from Miss Wells, full of election suggestions, may help you very much. You have received a letter from me earlier this month also listing possible election activities. The two overlap somewhat but there may be ideas in the National letter which appeal to you as workable in your community - for instance, the bill board plan or the full page newspaper advertisement.

You realize that the importance of these elections is tremendous. We have got to pass on realization of its importance. We have got to get out a large vote. Remember our goal - for each member, 20 voters to the polls!

The second part of Miss Wells' letter deals with the greater responsibilities of the League in these critical days. There is much food for thought. Please ponder the questions she raises and come prepared to discuss them at your fall conference.

Two new broadsides - one on Lend-Lease and the other on OPA - will be in your hands soon, both with suggestions for discussing them, and the former with a reference reading list.

You can't say that you aren't armed with material! Enclosed also is the Explanation of the Active List, which, if the National Program is a maze to you, will help you find your way. You could base a meeting on this information.

Again - Yours sincerely,

Helen J. Duff
Mrs. Philip S. Duff,
President

Enclosures:

Letter from Miss Wells of August 21st
Explanation of Active List (charged to your running account)
Replies from Senatorial Candidates - One free copy - additional copies at 5¢

FILE COPY

Minnesota League of Women Voters,
914 Marquette Ave., Minneapolis
October 7th, 1942

.....
: Is Freedom worth voting for? "Popular Suicide" :
: sponsored by the National League of Women Voters,:
: will be heard over W C C O, Monday, October 12th,:
: 3:00 to 3:15. :
: :
: Notify League members, friends and neighbors :
: Arrange listening groups :
: :
: Presents an unpartisan appeal to all voters to :
: choose the best men to lead the Nation. :
:.....

Adapt the suggestions for pre-election activities in the enclosed letter from Miss Wells, to your own community.

Movies Inquiries about the Red Wing trailer (based on our "Measure your Congressman flier") may be sent to Mrs. Wm. R. Pearce, 725 4th St., Red Wing. Other suggestions available from this office.

Radio Don't forget the network broadcast next Sunday, October 11th, over KSTP, 9:45 to 10:00. When Miss Wells is to be interviewed. Will those Leagues sent the disc "Popular Suicide" by the National League, please report to us at once what use they were able to make of it over their local radio station?

The Press The full page advertisement on a Better Congress is enclosed. Use it in some way. Other civic organizations, as well as business firms, might sponsor it with you. Parts of it could be adapted, if a full page is not feasible. It could be mounted and displayed as a poster in some public place.

National Broadside Your usual standing order will be sent on to you just as quickly as possible after our supply is received - within the next two or three days. Quick and effective distribution is needed. Also ready for distribution is a new broadside on the two amendments to the State Constitution to be voted on at the election.

Orders for the instructions for StreetCorner Meetings (price 8 cents) and "Elect the Best Congress" buttons (\$3.00 per 100) may be placed through this office.

PLEASE SEND IN A FULL REPORT OF ALL YOUR PRE ELECTION ACTIVITIES

[1942?]
MAY 4

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Rochester, Minnesota

R*E*M*E*M*B*E*R T*U*E*S*D*A*Y, M*A*R*C*H 10, - E*L*E*C*T*I*O*N D*A*Y

Charter Election for City Officers and School Board

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Out of a 12,000 eligible voters in 1941, only ⁴⁹⁶³~~4900~~ exercised the privilege?

Rochester was incorporated as a city in 1858, and according to the Constitution of the State of Minnesota operates under what is known as a Home Rule Charter?

That our present charter was framed in 1904 and was revised in 1921 including amendments?

That Rochester has a population of 26,213 (1940 census), making it a city of the second class?

That the tax valuation of the City of Rochester is nearly 24 million dollars?

That the City of Rochester is divided into three wards, known as first, second and third. That the dividing line between first and second wards is 4th St. S. W. West from the river to city limits and third street from the river East to the city limits. - That the dividing line between second and third wards is 1st St. N. W. from the river West to city limits and the C. & N. W. Ry., tracks from the river East to the city limits?

That there are 16 precincts. - 5 in 1st Ward, - 5 in 2nd Ward, - 6 in 3rd Ward?

That there is an annual election of elective officers. The term of elective officers is two years, except City Treasurer whose term is one year and Municipal Judge whose term is four years?

That the Mayor runs in the uneven years and the Alderman at large in the even years, and that one alderman from each ward runs each year?

That the Mayor is the chief magistrate or executive officer of the city? His salary is \$400.00 per year and that perhaps his greatest power lies in his authority to appoint members of the various boards operating under the Common Council, including Civil Service Board, Utility Board, Park Board, Librarian Board, Zoning Board and Board of Public Health and Welfare. He also has veto power.

That the legislative authority of the City is vested in the Common Council which is composed of two alderman from each ward and an alderman at large. That the Common Council has management and control of the finances of the City and that the City of Rochester represents a business of more than eleven million dollars annually. That the salary of councilmen is \$300.00 per year.

That the Common Council appoints the City Attorney, City Clerk, City Engineer and other appointive officers of the City?

That our Police and Fire Departments are under civil service and that at the present time these are the only two departments under Civil Service?

That Rochester owns its utilities (light, water, heat) and that the utilities have been so conducted that they have been a paying department for the City and that a portion of the profits has been invested for the purpose of paying utility bond issues and paying for replacements and additions to the fiscal equipment as same may be acquired.

That the School Board is composed of one member from each ward and two members at large. The term is two years and the members serve without pay?

L*E*T*S M*A*K*E D*E*M*O*C*R*A*C*Y W*O*R*K A*T H*O*M*E

By getting out the Vote.

ANSWERS TO CHARTER QUESTIONS

1. Why does Minneapolis need a new Charter?

Minneapolis has not had a new Charter since 1872. The present Charter is long, antiquated, clumsy, and entails overlapping of responsibility. Numerous amendments and acts of the State Legislature have been added over many years. In 1920 this conglomeration of laws was codified by the Charter Commission and adopted by the people of Minneapolis as their Home-Rule Charter. Further amendments have been made, materially increasing the size and complexity of this Charter. The best solution to obviate the necessity of further amendments seems to be a complete new Charter. The tendency in modern cities is to make city Charters shorter, simpler, and more flexible.

2. What is meant by a City-Manager type of Charter?

A City-Manager Charter usually places a large part or all of the responsibility of conducting city affairs in the Council (the schools are separate). This Council is usually a small body. The proposed new Charter for Minneapolis has 11 councilmen, 5 elected by districts and 5 elected at large and without party designation. The Council chooses one of its members to act as Mayor. The Council has the authority to hire (and fire) a City-Manager who is trained and experienced in municipal administration. The City-Manager appoints the heads of the different city departments who are directly responsible to the City-Manager, with city employees under Civil Service. Under a City-Manager type of Charter, the Council, being elected by the people and having the power to appoint and dismiss the City-Manager, has exclusive power and responsibility. By putting a City-Manager in office and keeping him there, the Council assures full political responsibility for the conduct of the municipal government, both for the policies that are followed and the way in which they are administered. As of December 31st, 1941, there were 543 cities in the United States operating under a City-Manager type of Charter.

3. What are the advantages of a City-Manager type of Charter?

The lines of responsibility run straight from the voters through the Council to the City-Manager and the departments; there is no evasion of responsibility. The machinery of government is simple and easily understood by the voter. Financial and business practices are of the best. It means a shorter ballot which is a great advantage to the voter. The administration of the policies decided by the Council is in charge of a man trained and experienced in municipal government, the City-Manager.

4. What are the duties of a City-Manager?

The duties of a City-Manager are: -

- To appoint and supervise heads of city departments.
- To introduce and utilize the best administrative and financial methods available to carry on the work of the city.
- To execute all policies laid down by the Council in the most efficient way possible.
- To interpret technical aspects of local government to the Council.
- To make recommendations on matters of policy. The Council, however, is responsible to the people for any action taken.
- To present the city budget to the Council.
- To attend all Council meetings (except executive sessions), answer questions, engage in discussions of problems, but not to vote.

(see other side)

FUNDAMENTALS OF GOOD MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

1. Democratic Control

Democratic control should be maintained: -

- By election of the councilmen who are the policy-making officials of the government.
- By the short ballot so that the public may know the background and reputation of each candidate.
- By keeping the system readily responsible to the will of the voter. The voter must, at regular and frequent intervals, be given the opportunity to determine broad policies by the selection or elimination of policy-determining officials.
- By an intelligent citizenry which accepts responsibilities along with privileges in a democratic government.

2. Centralized Responsibility

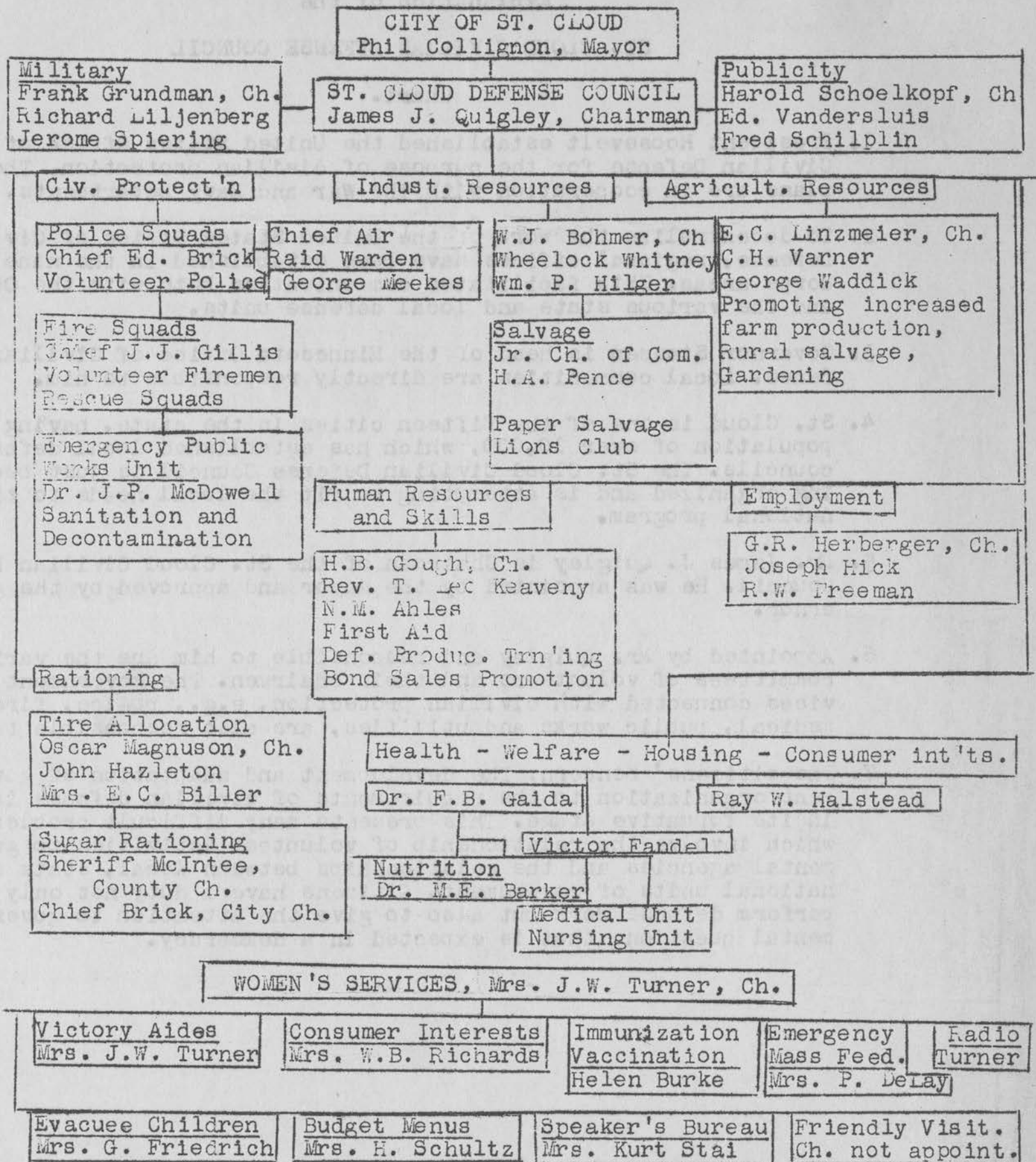
There should be centralization of responsibility of as much of the municipal government as possible under a strong responsible council. The councilmen set the general policies and should be responsible for the efficient administration of those policies, without, however, interfering in the details of administration. This can best be accomplished when the council hires an expert in municipal government to head up the administrative departments, such as a City-Manager.

3. Qualified Personnel

The administration of the policies laid down by the council should be in the hands of appointive officials chosen because of special qualifications for particular positions. The public is not interested in administrative detail except to be reasonably sure that it will be carried out with the greatest efficiency and economy. The administrative branch of the government should have a certain continuity and permanency regardless of change in elected officials. Civil Service should assure permanence during proper discharge of duties and be flexible enough to assure dismissal of inefficient employees. There should be equal pay for equal work. In-service training should be maintained in each department.

[1942]

ST. CLOUD CIVILIAN DEFENSE COUNCIL



Prepared by:

ST. CLOUD LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

April, 1942

Explanation of the
ST. CLOUD CIVILIAN DEFENSE COUNCIL

Chart.

1. President Roosevelt established the United States Office of Civilian Defense for the purpose of civilian protection. The plans are in cooperation with the War and Navy Departments.
2. To decentralize the work of the United States Office of Civilian Defense, regional offices have been established in the nine Army Corps areas. This facilitates communication both with the OCD and the various state and local defense units.
3. Governor Stassen is head of the Minnesota Office of Civilian Defense. Local communities are directly responsible to him.
4. St. Cloud is one of the fifteen cities in the state, having a population of over 10,000, which has established local defense councils. The St. Cloud Civilian Defense Council is just becoming organized and is attempting to fit the local needs to the national program.
5. Mr. James J. Quigley is Chairman of the St. Cloud Civilian Defense Council. He was appointed by the mayor and approved by the governor.
6. Appointed by Mr. Quigley and responsible to him are the various committees of volunteers and their chairmen. The government services connected with civilian protection, e.g., police, fire, medical, public works and utilities, are also responsible to him.
7. The citizens' concern: The development and adaptation of government organization to the requirements of civilian defense is only in its formative stage. This presents many difficult problems which involve the relationship of volunteer activities to governmental agencies and the relationships between local, state and national units of government. Citizens have a duty not only to perform defense work but also to give the attention to governmental questions that is expected in a democracy.

WOMEN'S SERVICES, Mrs. J. W. Turner, Ch.

Victory Aides Mrs. J. W. Turner	Consumer Interests Mrs. J. W. Turner	Immigration Mrs. J. W. Turner	Emergency Mrs. J. W. Turner
Aviation Mrs. J. W. Turner	Public Works Mrs. J. W. Turner	Medical Mrs. J. W. Turner	Fire Mrs. J. W. Turner
Police Mrs. J. W. Turner	Utilities Mrs. J. W. Turner	Volunteers Mrs. J. W. Turner	Chairmen Mrs. J. W. Turner

Prepared by:

ST. CLOUD LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

April, 1942

(1943)

FACTS AND FIGURES
RELATING TO PROPOSED ORDINANCE INCREASING FIRE AND POLICE SALARIES IN SAINT PAUL

At the coming City election on April 28, St. Paul voters will mark their ballots for or against this proposal. Approval of a majority of those voting on the ordinance is necessary for its adoption. Salary changes for City employees are usually made by the City Council. This time, acting under the Initiative and Referendum provisions of the Charter, the Council decided to submit this ordinance to a vote of the people.

The effect of the ordinance: If adopted, increases in salaries for all grades of the Fire Service and all but the two lowest grades of the Police Service would go into effect January 1, 1943 and could not be amended for one year and then only by unanimous vote of the Council. About 400 firemen and 320 policemen would receive increases totalling \$175,000 and requiring a $1\frac{1}{3}$ mill tax levy.

Present salary provisions for Civil Service employees: Men in the Police and Fire Services are classified and graded according to the value of their work to the City. The various grades are then placed in salary brackets and may be advanced to higher rates by the Council. Under St. Paul's unique adjustable salary plan, which has had 20 years of successful operation, the salaries of C. S. employees are increased or decreased from a basic entrance rate in accordance with the rise and fall in living costs. This increased 1942 Fire and Police salaries by \$69,000.

In addition to this increase, C.S. employees may also receive six periodical increases. Policemen and Firemen do not receive the sixth increase but the 1942 City Budget provided \$50,000 with which to even things up, and this raise became effective on March 1 this year. The following table shows the effect of these two 1942 raises on the large lower grades. Other grades were raised in proportion.

Salaries for Patrolmen and Firefighter Grades

1941		1-1-42 Cost of	3-1-42	1942	
Minimum	Maximum	Living Increase	Special Increase	Minimum	Maximum
\$126.35	\$151.35	\$7.15	\$5.90	\$139.40	\$164.40

Under the proposed ordinance, the 1943 salary would range from \$155.95 to \$184.70, but these figures do not include the cost of living adjustment which will go into effect automatically January 1, 1943. As this adjustment will be based upon the rise in the cost of living from June 1941 to June 1942, it is possible that the increase next January will be considerably higher than the one granted January first this year, unless curbs on prices, now pending, are made retroactive.

Pension Benefits for Police and Fire Services: The granting of pensions to police and firemen is in recognition of the hazardous nature of their services. These pensions were established by State Law and are the same for Minneapolis and Duluth. After twenty years of service and at the age of fifty, policemen may retire on a pension of \$75 per month and firemen on one of \$64 to \$89. Widows of men in these services receive \$40 per month and \$10 for each child under 16 years of age up to a maximum of \$75 and also receive \$7500 in Workmen's Compensation paid by the City if the husbands have been killed in line of duty. The City contributes about \$235,000 annually from a tax levy for these pension funds, with the men also paying something each month into the fund. A State tax on fire insurance premiums paid in St. Paul goes into the firemen's pension fund. St. Paul teachers and the Health employees also have pensions, to which they and the City contribute. Other City employees pay into a retirement fund but the City does not.

Salary comparisons with other cities: Our firefighters and patrolmen now receive a maximum of \$164.40 per month and must pay for their uniforms, rubber clothing, guns and ammunition, receiving no allowance from the City for these. In Duluth, these grades receive \$165 and the City furnishes cloth for some part of the uniforms each year. Minneapolis pays \$180 per month and furnishes caps for the police and the rubber clothing and woolen mittens for the firemen. Milwaukee pays \$185 and Cincinnati \$165. Both these cities supply men with all or a major part of their service equipment. St. Paul salaries are below the average for cities in its population group - \$35.60 less than Oakland, Calif., \$19 less than Rochester, N.Y., but slightly more than Denver or Toledo. None of these cities has adopted the adjustable salary plan in operation in St. Paul.

Problems of City Government: If the ordinance is adopted, other well organized groups of City employees may press similar claims for increases, thus putting the Council under continuing pressure on this issue. The problem of satisfying employees asking for raises to offset the abnormal spiral of living costs as well as the inability to retain efficient employees in competition with the higher salaries offered by the federal government and the war industries puts a severe strain on local governments everywhere. To expand local budgets to meet these requests in the face of limited tax sources, lowered valuations, and the huge federal program of war financing is not an easy decision for City officials.

The record of performance: In justification of their requests for the salary increases, the membership of the police and fire services point to the caliber of the men in their ranks, to the part they have had in gaining for St. Paul outstanding records in the reduction of crime, traffic deaths, and fire losses.

The Crime Reports of the FBI for 1941 show that, among 10 cities of comparable size, St. Paul had 42.7% below the average number of crimes.

Average of other cities:	Murder - 37	Aggravated Assault - 296	Auto Theft - 586
Number in St. Paul:	" 8	" 29	" 229

Traffic Deaths in St. Paul have been reduced 46% since 1934-5, a record which has just won for St. Paul a National Safety Council Award. In 1941, St. Paul was first in the State and third in the Nation in traffic safety.

Fire losses in St. Paul have been greatly reduced, with a corresponding reduction in insurance rates on all types of property. Losses in 1922-26 were \$5,830,632 and for 1937-41 were \$3,073,312, with per capita loss cut from \$4.19 to \$2.07 (1941 Loss - \$541,000). Over 100,000 inspections are made annually, homes included.

Through strict enforcement of the law, through efficient performance of their duties, and through programs of inspections and of education of the public in traffic safety and fire prevention, these men on the fire and police forces have rendered outstanding service. Now, in wartime, upon them will be placed added responsibilities in relation to civilian defense in a city which is now a "target area." Upon their knowledge and training much is going to depend.

With so much involved, it is no wonder that the City Council voted to submit the decision to the people. It will not be easy, either, for the voters to decide!

MANY PEOPLE TODAY HAVE LOST THEIR PRIVILEGE OF FREE EXPRESSION AT THE POLLS
SHOW HOW MUCH YOU VALUE THAT PRIVILEGE BY VOTING IN THE COMING ELECTION

Ramsey County League of Women Voters
303 Degree of Honor Building
Saint Paul

April
1942

1¢ each
75¢ per hundred copies

[1942]

FILE COPY

MUNICIPAL GARBAGE COLLECTION

To anyone who has considered the problem of municipal universal garbage collection in St. Cloud, the need is self-evident; for this city-wide collection is important to the health and sanitation of our city as well as to its appearance. Universal collection would lower the price to the present subscribers, and everyone would receive full value for the small sum added to their tax bill.

The present system is a menace to health. There are people who throw their garbage anywhere in their back yards or on neighboring vacant lots, where they will allow it to remain until dogs, children, the wind or some other forces have spread it all over the neighborhood, or perhaps until the health officer, in answer to the call of neighbors, warns the offending person to put all garbage in a covered container. If we had city-wide service everyone would have to use the proper container, for with the collector picking up garbage twice a week, he would consequently have a check on every individual.

Driving outside the city limits one sees garbage and tin cans all along the roadside both on the main highways and on less frequented roads. Nor do we have to go outside the city, for garbage and tin cans are frequently found in our parks, on vacant lots and along the city streets. If the garbage collection service were made universal there would be an end to this disgraceful situation.

Twelve hundred out of a possible 4,500 individual homes in St. Cloud now subscribe to the present service which costs six dollars a year. With all 4,500 homes paying for the service the fee would drop at least fifty per cent for the majority of the people.

The city health officer has asked for an appropriation of \$12,000, which he believes will cover the cost of the service each year. There would be no additional cost at the plant, but two more collectors would be needed. At the present time the collectors, who own their own trucks, receive 80% of the revenue and the city receives only 20%.

At the present time both garbage and tin cans are collected twice a week, but under the city-wide plan garbage would be collected twice a week and tin cans once a week.

Certainly St. Cloud is progressive enough and large enough to afford the protection of a city-wide garbage collection system. Our Health Department and city officials appreciate the need for it and are ready to provide this service. They are only waiting for encouragement from the public. Why not give them that encouragement? Take a minute today and call or send a postal card to the Health Department urging the adoption of modern garbage disposal. Address your card to Health Department, City Hall, St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Prepared by the
St. Cloud League of Women Voters

July 1942

FILE COPY

Aug 1942

OUR HOME FRONT IN POPE COUNTY

2000 copies

President Roosevelt has created agencies of Government to plan and execute a Civilian War Program, to organize communities and to guide those who wish to help at home to win the War.

POPE COUNTY CIVILIAN DEFENSE CHAIRMAN, C. O. EFTESVOLD

LOCAL CIVILIAN DEFENSE CHAIRMEN

Townships		Townships	
Bangor	William Egan	Langhei	Lee Lund
Barsness	Omer E. Barsness	Leven	August Reichman
Ben Wade	O. H. Slette	Minnewaska	Anton Moe
Blue Mounds	Anton Erickson	New Prairie	Olando Dalen
Chippewa Falls	Henry Holten	Nora	Theo. Blomquist
Gilchrist	George Nelson	Reno	Martin J. Bartos
Glenwood	Fred Pitzen	Rolling Forks	E. F. Flodin
Grove Lake	Ira Cook	Walden	Christ Christianson
Hoff	Leonard Rustad	Westport	Frank Hlinsky
Lake Johanna	Carl Lea	White Bear Lake	Ellwood Nygaard

POPE COUNTY DIRECTOR OF WOMEN'S SERVICES, MRS. ANN J. BICKLE

VICTORY AIDE CAPTAINS

Mrs. O. S. Talle, Glenwood	City of Glenwood
Mrs. Don Pilotte, Sedan	Bangor Twp., Chippewa Falls Twp., Lake Johanna Twp., and Gilchrist Twp.
Mrs. H. F. Engebretson, Lowry	Reno Twp., Ben Wade Twp., Minnewaska Twp., and Nora Twp.
Mrs. O. H. Wollan, Starbuck	Barsness Twp., Blue Mounds Twp., White Bear Lake Twp., Langhei Twp., and Rolling Forks Twp.
Mrs. Cye Winter, Villard	Grove Lake Twp., Westport Twp., Leven Twp., and Glenwood Twp.
Mrs. Mary Stensky, Cyrus	New Prairie Twp., Hoff Twp., and Walden Twp.

CHAIRMAN OF SPEAKERS BUREAU OF CIVILIAN DEFENSE, MRS. DON PILOTTE, SEDAN

POPE COUNTY AIR-RAID WARDEN, ARTHUR E. NELSON

LOCAL AIR-RAID WARDENS

Glenwood	Arthur E. Nelson, Chief	Westport	P. J. Flannery
.	E. N. Nordgaard, Ass't Chief	Cyrus	G. O. Pederson
Starbuck	P. B. Peterson	Villard	G. A. Butler, West Side
Lowry	C. T. Erickson	W. M. Quaife, East Side
Sedan	Glenn Runquist	Farwell	Edwin Halverson

Know Your Air-Raid Warden. Answer His Questions, Follow His Instructions--
It May Save Your Life! Give Him Full Cooperation.

POPE COUNTY RED CROSS CHAIRMAN, L. O. SYLVESTER, GLENWOOD

CHAIRMAN PRODUCTION PROGRAM, LOU ROBARDS, Glenwood

Provides organized groups for making of garments, knitted articles, and surgical dressings.

HOME NURSING CHAIRMAN, MRS. A. F. GIESEN, Starbuck

One hundred fifty Pope County women have just finished the twenty-four hour course in Home Nursing. Clubs, churches, schools and community groups are invited to form classes. Trained nurse instructors are available for teaching.

FIRST AID CHAIRMAN, DINA BREMNESS, Glenwood

Twenty instructors are ready. Announcements will be made in your local papers as to time and place of classes. First Aid training prepares people to give aid to injured wherever they may be, in bombed areas or industrial accidents or on highways and in homes.

POPE COUNTY NUTRITION CHAIRMAN, MRS. P. K. AKRE, Glenwood

Healthy citizens are the first line of Defense.

Take a course in First Aid, Nutrition, and Home Nursing. With the military need for doctors and nurses we are not going to be able to call on the doctors and nurses in our communities, except for serious illness. Know how to take care of your family!

POPE COUNTY SALVAGE CHAIRMAN, OLIVER KALDAHL, GLENWOOD
There is a Salvage Committee in every town and township.

<u>Township</u>	<u>Chairmen</u>	
Bangor	Joe Terhaar, Brooten	Henry Glieden, Brooten
Barsness	Carl M. Hagen, Starbuck	Leo W. Hagen, Starbuck
Ben Wade	Thomas Staven, Lowry	Leif Dahl, Lowry
Blue Mounds	Olger P. Barsness, Starbuck	Theo. Amundson, Starbuck
Chippewa Falls	J. H. Peterson, Glenwood, R. #3	Rudolph Hauge, Sedan
Gilchrist	Olai Simonson, Terrace, R. #1	Martin Syverson, Sedan, R. #1
Glenwood Township	Oscar Vantries, Glenwood, R. #1	N. H. Schonstad, Glenwood, R. #1
Grove Lake	Alfred Sundin, Glenwood	F. M. Shallor, Westport
Hoff	O. K. Maanum, Clontarf	Carl J. Olson, Clontarf
Lake Johanna	Alfred Thorson, Brooten	Elert Kittelson, Brooten
Langhei	Oscar Aslakson, Starbuck, R. #3	Andrew Hilstrand, Clontarf
Leven	Wm. Gaffaney, Glenwood	Warren Cocley, Glenwood
Minnewaska	R. H. Peterman, Glenwood	C. T. Kirkwold, Glenwood
New Prairie	Carl Gunvaldson, New Prairie	Palmer Barsness, Cyrus
Nora	Aug. E. Anderson, Kensington, R. #3	Mons Stolaas, Kensington, R. #3
Reno	Billy Thompson, Lowry	Bob Star, Lowry
Walden	John Anderson, Starbuck, R.F.D.	Christ Christianson, Starbuck
Westport	Frank Hlinsky, Villard	H. M. Butler, Villard
White Bear Lake	Ole Lorvig, Starbuck	Peter Olmeim, Starbuck
Rolling Forks	Ole Jergenson, Starbuck, R.F.D.	John Klyde, Starbuck, R.F.D.
City of Glenwood	Oliver Kaldahl, Glenwood	R. E. Brown, Glenwood
Starbuck	Gerhard Landmark, Starbuck	Arnold Dullum, Starbuck
Cyrus	Abe Abrahamson, Cyrus	Elmer Flaten, Cyrus
Lowry	Warren Nelson, Lowry	E. R. Benson, Lowry
Farwell	J. O. Opheim, Farwell	O. E. Bollum, Farwell
Sedan	Glenn Rundquist, Sedan	Fritz Koob, Sedan
Villard	E. W. Remster, Villard	W. M. Quaife, Villard

WAR INFORMATION OFFICE IN CITY HALL, GLENWOOD
C. O. ETTESVOLD, CHAIRMAN

Office open every day from 9 to 12 and 1 to 4 o'clock, except Saturday and Sunday.

WAR HISTORY CHAIRMAN, CHARLIE GLANTZ

As citizens, we all participate in the home front through protective service, community service, and services in the home; but in all of these we work through our Local Civilian Defense Councils, which are composed of individuals who contribute their services without compensation.

WE ARE WORKING TOGETHER FOR VICTORY

Prepared by the
GLENWOOD LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
WAR TIME SERVICE CHAIRMAN, MRS. O. S. TALLE, GLENWOOD

Information concerning current government problems is available. Read League Broad-sides on Rationing, Forced Savings, Inflation, Next Year's Taxes--Will They Be Adequate, Your Vote Will Help Make the Future.

SOME ESSENTIAL FACTS FOR MINNEAPOLIS TAXPAYERS

THE CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS FACES TWO MAJOR FINANCIAL PROBLEMS: They are
1) financing essential services in local government in time of war, and
2) reducing the city's bonded indebtedness.

SOME ASPECTS OF THE CITY'S PRESENT FINANCIAL STATUS -

The Sinking Fund, for paying off bonds, requires more than \$4,000,000 or 18 mills over and above the amount raised by current annual taxes, to pay off bond maturities as they come due. This deficit has been met by issuing new bonds, or in effect by re-financing or refunding. In other words, money has been borrowed, instead of taxes being currently levied, to pay off maturities of bonds already issued. The net debt amounted to \$61,227,697 on July 1, 1942. This total of outstanding obligations of the city includes \$24,370,000 unpaid portion of relief bond issues, and \$12,821,000 unpaid portion of refunding bonds. The first relief bonds were issued in 1932 and the first refunding bond in 1938.

The Board of Public Welfare receives the proceeds of 3.75 mills tax levy or approximately \$820,000 a year in current taxes to meet its current needs. The total annual requirements of the Board for 1942 amount to about \$3,750,000 of which \$1,500,000 is the cost of services other than relief. Thus it is seen that the current tax levy provides no funds for relief, and furthermore, is inadequate to cover other than relief costs. Relief has been financed almost entirely by borrowing and by state and federal aid. To finance current relief through taxation would require an additional 10 mills.

The Schools In order to balance the budget the Board of Education is requesting the allocation of the proceeds of 3 additional ^{mills} in the general property tax rate for school purposes. This would mean added school resources of about \$650,000. The problems of the schools' budget might be met by a redistribution through the legislature of state income tax money, and by a reduction of current school expenses.

SUMMARY -

The alarming features of Minneapolis' bonded indebtedness are:

- 1) That the city has been unable to discontinue bond issues to finance relief,
- 2) THAT THE DEBT LIMIT SET BY THE CHARTER HAS ALMOST BEEN REACHED. The margin for new bonds was \$ 2,363,487 as of July 1, 1942.

Alternatives suggested in several quarters are: 1) more revenue, 2) greater economies, 3) a combination of both. Decreased expenditures for the "duration" will include curtailment of most of the plans for capital improvements. Economies may be offset, however, by expenses for civilian defense activities, decreases in property tax revenue, and in miscellaneous revenues such as traffic fines, building permit fees, etc. More revenue might be obtained, as suggested above, through a more equitable local share of state collect taxes,

THE COUNCIL MANAGER CHARTER form of government has brought economy in many of the local governments adopting it, where unit costs have been reduced and municipal expenditures kept at a minimum. Essential municipal services should be made available at the lowest possible cost now and cash and credit reserves built up for post-war adjustments. A Council Manager Charter would provide the tools and machinery for economy in time of war and long-range planning for the peace to follow.

[1942]

MANY PEOPLE IN THE WORLD TODAY HAVE LOST THEIR RIGHT TO VOTE
SHOW HOW YOU VALUE THAT PRIVILEGE
BY VOTING
IN THE FALL ELECTIONS

Primary Election - September 8

General Election - November 3

* * * * *

IN ORDER TO VOTE YOU MUST

Be a citizen of the United States - born or naturalized.
Be 21 years of age on or before election day.
Have been a resident of Minnesota 6 months and of your voting district 30 days previous to election.

AND, IF YOU LIVE IN ST. PAUL, YOU MUST HAVE REGISTERED.

St. Paul has a system of permanent registration of voters. Once having registered you are entitled to vote at all elections, PROVIDED

you have voted once in past two years in which elections were held and you have notified the registration bureau of any change of address.

Women who have changed their names by marriage or divorce must re-register. Anyone who has not voted for past two years must re-register. New registrations and changes in registration may be made at the registration bureau on the ground floor of City Hall-Court House any time up to 20 days before election.

Registration for Primary closes August 18 and for General Election October 13. County residents outside of St. Paul register when they vote on election day.

ABSENTEE VOTING

A REGISTERED voter unable to go to the polls on election day, because of illness, disability, or absence from the city (but within the limits of the 48 states), may apply in person or by mail of the County Auditor or the registration bureau for an Absentee Voter's Ballot, which must be mailed so as to reach election district on election day. This application must be made not more than 30 days nor less than one day before election and a fee of 30¢ must be paid.

PARTY TICKETS

State Officials and Members of Congress ONLY are nominated and elected on party tickets. In the PRIMARY you cannot split your ballot. If you vote for candidates of more than one party, your ballot will be rejected. In the GENERAL election you may cross party lines and vote for a candidate of one party for one office and for a candidate of another party for another office. Where voting machines are in use, the voter pulls the lever marked for the party for whose ticket he is voting.

If there is only one candidate for an office on a party ticket, he is automatically nominated and his name will not appear on the primary ballot.

REMEMBER

YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO VOTE FOR THE MAN OF YOUR CHOICE IN NOVEMBER IF YOU DO NOT HELP TO NOMINATE HIM IN SEPTEMBER. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MEN YOU CHOOSE TO REPRESENT YOU IN YOUR GOVERNMENT. CONTINUE THAT RESPONSIBILITY AFTER ELECTION

(over)

VOTERS IN RAMSEY COUNTY WILL FILL THE FOLLOWING OFFICES IN THE FALL ELECTIONS

In the United States Congress

(with party designation)

One Senator - 6 year term - January 3, 1943 to January 3, 1949

One Senator for "short term" - November 3, 1942 to January 3, 1943

Note: Senator Ball's appointment to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Lundeen expires on election day according to Minnesota law. Senator Ball is a candidate for the full term only. The successful candidate for the short term will serve just for the final 2 months of this session of the present Congress.

One Representative in Congress - 4th Congressional District (Ramsey County)

In the State of Minnesota

State Officials

(with party designation)

Governor

Lieutenant Governor

Secretary of State

Treasurer

Auditor

Attorney General

Clerk of the Supreme Court

One Railroad and Warehouse Commissioner

State Legislature

(without party designation)

One Senator and two Representatives from each of the six legislative districts into which Ramsey County is divided.

The Courts

(without party designation)

Two Associate Justices of the State Supreme Court

One Judge of the Ramsey County District Court

One Clerk of the District Court

In Ramsey County

(without party designation)

Six County Commissioners

(4 from St. Paul and 2 from 2 county districts)

Auditor

Treasurer

Attorney

Sheriff

Coroner

Surveyor

Abstract Clerk

Register of Deeds

Superintendent of Schools (county voters only)

THINGS YOU AS A VOTER CAN DO

Learn something about the candidates and the duties of the elective offices.

Talk to your friends and neighbors about what you have learned.

See that those friends and neighbors go to the polls on these election days.

WAR TIME GOVERNMENT NEEDS YOUR BEST

BE THE KIND OF RESPONSIBLE CITIZEN A DEMOCRACY NEEDS

Issued by

Ramsey County League of Women Voters

303 Degree of Honor Building

Saint Paul, Minnesota

September 1942

Cedar 3178

CIVIL SERVICE FOR RAMSEY COUNTY

General Election

November 3, 1942

FILE COPY

On November 3, voters of Ramsey County will vote on a proposal for the establishment of a Civil Service system for county employees. Approval of a majority of those voting on it is necessary for its adoption. An Act of the 1941 Minnesota Legislature set up the framework of the system but required the referendum to the people upon a resolution adopted by the Board of County Commissioners.

Our State Civil Service System, adopted in 1939, has more than justified its existence. The City of St. Paul has long benefited from its system which is considered to be one of the best administered systems in the U. S. It is now proposed to extend to county government the benefits which a merit system insures.

Approval of a county civil service system has been expressed by many of the elective county officials, candidates for county offices, county employees, and civic groups.

IF YOU VOTE "YES" ON COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE YOU WILL SECURE FOR COUNTY GOVERNMENT THOSE SAFEGUARDS ALREADY PROVIDED FOR FEDERAL, STATE AND CITY GOVERNMENT

***** A Civil Service System *****

What it means:

Appointment and promotion of government employees on basis of merit not patronage
Conditions of service to attract and hold employees of character and capacity
Classification of positions and standardization of pay - equal pay for equal work
Economical, efficient administration of government - doubly important in war time

What it needs to be successful:

Leadership and support from heads of governmental units
Established merit standards applied equally throughout all offices and depts.
Adequate appropriations
Support of Public Opinion

What it will cost:

This will depend upon whether the system is to be administered by the City Civil Service Bureau or whether a separate personnel staff is to be set up. In either case, a large staff would not be required as there will be only about 300 county employees in the classified service. In 1941, the City Bureau with a budget of \$21,550 and full time staff of nine, administered a system for many more employees.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AS A CITIZEN DOES NOT END WITH YOUR VOTE
YOUR CONTINUED INTEREST WILL HELP ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN SOUND COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE

***** Main provisions as set up in the Legislative Act. *****

Civil Service Commission: The three members are to be appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. They cannot be holding public or political party office at the time of appointment or for two years previous. Compensation of each: \$10 per day for days served with yearly maximum of \$300. Terms: 6 years.

Civil Service Administrator: The Board of County Commissioners may contract with the St. Paul City Council for the services of the City Civil Service Bureau in administering the system on some satisfactory financial basis. It is highly probable that this will be done. If not, then the Commission, with the approval of the County Board will appoint an administrator and his assistants, all of whom must be chosen on the basis of merit after competitive examinations.

(over)

Those covered by the Act: Officers and employees of county officials and the Board of County Commissioners as well as those employed by the Joint City Hall-Court House Commission which maintains the building. Specifically excluded are the employees of the County Board of Public Welfare (those employed at Ancker Hospital, the County Farm and the Children's Preventorium, and those administering Child Welfare, Relief, and the Social Security Welfare Services.)

Classified Service: Positions subject to the terms of the Civil Service Law, including all officers and employees not specifically exempted, and also hourly and daily laborers who must pass tests for fitness.

Unclassified Service: Positions specifically exempted from terms of the law:

Elective officials and one deputy and one private secretary of each
Superintendents and administrative heads of separate county departments
Assistant county attorneys and special investigators employed by county attorney
Special police officers and special deputy sheriffs serving without pay
Principals, supervisors, teachers, doctors, internes, and nurses in county employ
Officers and employees appointed by District and Probate Court Judges
District Court Reporters. Members of non-paid boards and commissions
Employees of county probation office, county boys' farm and girls' school

Status of Present Employees: Those permanently employed on Feb. 1, 1941 or part time in 1940 will be placed in classified service without qualifying examinations but will be subject to a six months' probationary period, during which they may be discharged or demoted by consent of the commission but with no right of appeal.

Removal, demotion, or discharge: Only for cause in the case of those having permanent civil service status. Religious or political reasons are not considered cause. Written charges must be filed and accused has right to a public hearing. The Commission may uphold charges, reinstate employees with back pay, or reduce punishment.

Veterans' Preference: If veteran passes examination, 5 points is added to his rating. If this places him among the top three on the eligible list, he will receive the appointment over a non-veteran. There is no additional rating for a disabled veteran and no reduction of rating because of disability if he can perform the duties.

Some other provisions: Approval by the County Board of rules and regulations adopted by Commission. Classification of all offices on basis of duties and responsibilities. Promotions based upon competitive examinations and upon record of efficiency, character, conduct and seniority. Lay-offs based on seniority. Appointment to fill vacancies by transfer, reinstatement, or from top three on eligible list built up through competitive examinations. Protection in certification of pay roll.

LOOK FOR THE SPECIAL LEVER OR BALLOT AND VOTE "YES" FOR COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE

*** Other citizens may want to read this Broadside. Will you pass it on? ***
For additional copies call CE. 3178

Prepared by
Ramsey County League of Women Voters
303 Degree of Honor Building
Saint Paul, Minnesota
October 1942

FILE COPY

Prepared & circulated by
Litchfield League (1942)

FACTS . . about the Proposed Home Rule Charter for Litchfield

Why A New Charter?

The present Village charter was originally passed as a special law of the Minnesota Legislature in 1874. It was revised in 1887 and amended in 1889. In 1892 an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Minnesota was adopted which prohibited special laws. Hence, the present charter cannot be amended or revised.

The problems of local government today are vastly different from those of 50 or 60 years ago. Any charter adopted 50 or 60 years ago and incapable of change or revision is outmoded and wholly inadequate as a vehicle of good local government. Today only four or five Villages in Minnesota are operating under these antiquated special law charters.

What Is A Home Rule Charter?

The constitution and laws of Minnesota permit Villages and Cities to frame their own charter through a local charter commission. A proposed charter, if approved by the voters, becomes the governing law of that Village or City. Amendments to the charter are proposed and adopted in the same manner. Nearly all towns in Minnesota the size of Litchfield are operating under Home Rule Charters.

What Changes Will Result From The Adoption of the Proposed Charter?

Council members will be elected at large for four year terms. Cities of the size of Litchfield should operate as a unit rather than by wards. Four year terms gives council members sufficient time to carry out a program of good city government.

Assessor and Clerk will be appointed rather than elected. In line with a well recognized principle of having administrative officers appointed and policy making officers elected, these two important officers will be appointed by the council.

Elections held biennially rather than annually.

Proposed charter provides for Initiative, Referendum and Recall. This important provision reserves in voters the right to propose and adopt any measure, to refer any action of the council to the voter for rejection or ratification, or to recall any elective officer.

Council must call for bids on any purchase over \$500.00. Under present Village charter council may make purchases in any amounts without bids.

Budget provided. Council must, before beginning of the fiscal year, adopt and adhere to budget.

Accounts of City and City officers will be required to be audited every year.

What Proposed Charter Will Not Change:

Same type of government. Mayor-Council plan retained under proposed new charter.

Same boundaries. Corporate limits are not changed.

Mayor and Council members will not receive salaries.

Taxes will not be increased. Proposed charter fixes same tax levy limits and same bonded debt limits as provided in laws now applicable to the Village of Litchfield.

A Municipal Court is not provided for in the proposed charter. Municipal Courts can be created only by act of the State Legislature.

**THE PROPOSED CHARTER WILL PROVIDE MEANS FOR A GOOD, EFFICIENT AND
WORKABLE CITY GOVERNMENT**

**Vote on the Proposed Charter
Next Tuesday, October 6th
Voting Hours 10 A.M. to 8 P.M.**

**Boxholder,
Litchfield, Minn.**

Section 562 P. L. & R.

12,000 copies
FILE COPY

Your Vote *will help make the Future*

[1942]

The United States has no choice.

We are faced with world-wide responsibility and leadership.

That responsibility falls upon YOU—in your selection of members of the next Congress—in your understanding of public issues—in your cool judgment of what is best for the entire country.

THERE IS NO PRECEDENT FOR SOME OF THE DECISIONS THE NEXT CONGRESS WILL BE CALLED UPON TO MAKE

Therefore:

The men elected this year must have qualities which make for statesmanship.

They must be willing and able to subordinate local and party and group interests to the national interest.

They must be capable of exercising independent judgment.

They must be strong enough to make unprecedented decisions wisely.

CONGRESS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

YOUR vote is needed to elect men equal to the task before them.

Cast your vote with full realization of YOUR responsibility.

WHAT IS THE JOB OF CONGRESS?

Congress has control of the government purse strings.

Congress legislates on questions directly affecting foreign policy, such as Lend-Lease Act, Philippine Independence Act, Neutrality Act.

Congress passes domestic laws directly affecting other countries, such as tariff and immigration laws.

Congress raises and supports the Army and provides and maintains the Navy.

The Senate alone ratifies treaties.

Congress passes legislation that touches the daily lives of every one of us, such as taxes, draft laws, rationing, travel regulations, price ceilings, etc.

★ ★ ★

DEMOCRACY'S FIRST TOOL IS THE BALLOT

Your first use of that tool is in the Primary September 8th

DON'T UNDERESTIMATE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PRIMARY

MAKE YOUR OWN CHOICE—

AFTER THE PRIMARY YOUR CHOICE IS NARROWED

Don't Let the "Other Fellow" Choose the Man You Will Vote for in November

[1942]

Measure the Men Who May Represent You In the Most Important Congress In Our Country's History

Here Is a Yardstick

Would they be leaders or only followers of public opinion?

Would they put national interests before party interests?

Would they put winning the war above all other considerations?

Would they have ability and determination to help create a just and lasting peace?

**IF YOUR PRESENT CONGRESSMEN HAVE NOT SHOWN
THESE ESSENTIAL QUALITIES WHY NOT REPLACE THEM?**

You Still Have Time

- Find people that agree with you.
 - Find the man who could do the job.
 - Ask him to run.
 - Get to work and elect him.
-

**The fate of our country—in war or in
peace—will rest on the men elected to
the next Congress**

HERE A CONGRESSMAN TURNS TO YOU FOR HELP IN HIS STUDY OF A CRITICAL NATIONAL PROBLEM



JAVITS: He quizzed the governors of 48 states

WHY DON'T YOU VOTE?

by **JACOB K. JAVITS**

Member of Congress, 21st District, New York

OVER 95,000,000 Americans could go to the polls for the critically important 1950 elections. Probably scarcely more than 35,000,000 will do so. Why?

In 1948, face to face with the enormous issues of the cold war and reconstruction throughout the world, only 51.6 per cent of the adult population voted — 48,000,000 out of the 94,000,000 who were eligible. The record is much worse in congressional than in presidential elections — in 1946, for instance, 37.5 per cent voted, 34,000,000 out of the 91,000,000 eligible. In 1942, it was only 32.4 per cent.

Why our people don't vote is a problem that has troubled Congress for a long time. The importance of voting today far exceeds its importance in other, less critical days. **For today the United States is locked in a life-and-death effort to preserve the very institutions — free elections — which are so strikingly under-patronized.**

To try to find out more about the question I recently made a survey among the governors of all the 48 states asking them two questions: first, why they thought enough people didn't vote in their own states; and, second, what they thought ought to be done about it. Most of the governors favor an investigation to find out why enough people don't vote on a national scale, though all have reasons of their own to assign. Yet interestingly enough they are almost unanimous in being against compulsory voting.

"People Are Lethargic"

THE governor of a southern state said the only way to get increased voting participation outside of the Democratic primary in the South "would be the creation of another strong party in the South; one which could challenge the success of the Democratic nominee." The governor of a mid-western industrial state wrote, "People have become lethargic about their right to vote." Another governor said registration for voting proved

to be too complicated and time consuming.

The governor of one of the mountain states thought that our schools were falling down on the job. He wrote, "I believe our schools should be required to give instruction on the responsibility of voting and of participating in governmental affairs. People young and old should be taught the importance of good government."

Voting Apathy in Portland, Me.

THERE have also been some interesting efforts to determine scientifically why so many Americans don't vote. One of special significance was begun early in 1949 by Dr. Ernest Dichter, psychological consultant of New York City, who has since published the results of his study made in the city of Portland, Me.

He tried to determine why only 15 to 20 per cent of the eligible citizens of Portland voted in the city elections. Dr. Dichter found that non-voting was attributable not as much to political apathy as to political frustration. Many who did not vote felt a sense of not belonging as full citizens, others lacked the courage and emotional maturity which it takes to vote and still others were overcritical and hence did not vote on the "plague on both your houses" theory.

The ordinary citizen's political frustration was found to be the dominant note throughout in Dr. Dichter's survey. He felt that there was a feeling almost as if only rebellion would bring about changes and as the people of Portland were basically lawful they just shut this feeling up within themselves and did nothing.

A few months ago I introduced a bill (House Resolution 641) to investigate through a special committee of the House of Representatives why Americans don't vote and what ought to be done about it. This brought out a great deal of editorial comment, as well as many letters from individuals. These letters on the whole confirmed what Dr. Dichter's survey had found as the basic reasons why Americans don't vote.

Some, of course, mentioned rather more prosaic reasons. One lady wrote me that she didn't vote because she was kept sitting around for 15 or 20 minutes in a "dirty hole" of a voting place while the registration officers ate ice-cream cones. Dr. Dichter found, too, in his survey that physical considerations such as the time required to register and to vote, the convenience of access to the voting place and the physical arrangements there as well as the conduct of the election officials were factors.

Of course, my resolution in the House of Representatives, Dr. Dichter's survey, my own survey of the state governors and other inquiries on this subject have all been directed to learning what ought to be done about it. The easy answer is to call for compulsory voting. Compulsory voting in a good many

countries around the world has indeed resulted in bringing out the vote — up to 90 per cent of those eligible in most countries where tried. Belgium, the Netherlands, Australia and New Zealand have compulsory voting now as do in one form or another 12 of our 20 Central and South American neighbor countries, among them Brazil, Peru, Uruguay, Panama and Guatemala.

Interestingly enough, there is a tradition of compulsory voting in our own country — it existed in most of the 13 colonies before the Revolution. **But the sentiment of our people is opposed to it, as my survey of the state governors conclusively confirms.**

There are, however, other remedies which we have not yet begun to try on a large scale. Dr. Dichter's survey showed that among these are a better personal acquaintance with public servants, the creation of easy channels of communication to them and the introduction of many physical improvements.

These were tried in Portland by having more frequent meetings between the citizens and their officials in each community, by giving a free telephone service to enable citizens to speak personally with their public officials and by broadcasting in popular form a great deal of information about the city government. Physical conditions with respect to voting were made more convenient.

In the election following Dr. Dichter's survey, voting increased by one third in Portland as a result of these improvements.

Election Day a National Holiday?

SOME of my colleagues in Congress have turned up interesting ideas on how to increase voting. Senator Magnuson (Dem. — Wash.) has introduced a bill to declare the November election day a national holiday. Senator Langer (Rep. — N. D.) has introduced a bill to provide a \$25 credit on the income tax of every person voting. Representative Klein (Dem. — N. Y.) has raised the ante; his bill offers a \$30 credit if the taxpayer voted during the taxable year.

Voters themselves also have ideas on the subject. A college professor wrote me that our ballots were too long and had too many candidates and that more people would vote if they had to choose only one representative as in the British parliamentary system, letting the representatives so chosen do all the rest.

As for compulsory voting, there are several serious objections. Congress could only approach the matter by way of either a Constitutional amendment — a cumbersome procedure — or a "uniform state statute." This is simply a law which Congress recommends and which the states adopt voluntarily.

My own feeling is that there are many reforms we ought to try before we think seriously

Continued on page 25

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Mr. Javits is carrying on a nationwide investigation into the reasons why people don't vote. Write him your own ideas on the subject. Please address him at the House of Representatives, Box 1760, Washington, D. C. All letters will be carefully studied, but they cannot be answered



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Mrs. Duff

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Center for Continuation Study

INSTITUTE ON POLITICAL PARTY RESPONSIBILITY IN A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY

October 17, 18, 19, 1946
(Thursday, Friday, Saturday)

Announcement

At the instance and with the cooperation of the state and local organizations of the League of Women Voters, the University will hold at the Center for Continuation Study on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 17, 18 and 19, 1946, an Institute on Political Party Responsibility in a Democratic Society. This is the sixth institute offered under similar auspices since the Center opened in 1936.

Program

Thursday, October 17

8:00 a.m. Complete registration. Dormitory desk, Center for Continuation Study
9:00 a.m. Introduction J. M. Nolte, William Anderson
9:30 a.m. Conditions necessary for democratic government through
parties Charles J. Turck
12:00 m. Luncheon -- Center dining room
1:30 p.m. What is a party? William Anderson

Friday, October 18

9:00 a.m. The role of the party in American government ... Asher N. Christensen
12:00 m. Luncheon -- Center dining room
1:30 p.m. Social tensions and party realignment Evron M. Kirkpatrick
3:00 p.m. The third party in United States politics Arthur Naftalin

Saturday, October 19

9:00 a.m. Party responsibility in the United States Earl G. Latham
11:00 a.m. Concluding round table. Questions and answers. Registrants and
faculty.
12:00 m. Adjournment

Faculty

William Anderson, Professor of Political Science, University of Minnesota
Asher N. Christensen, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of
Minnesota
Evron M. Kirkpatrick, Professor of Sociology, University of Minnesota
Earl G. Latham, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Minnesota
Arthur Naftalin, Secretary to the Mayor, Minneapolis
J. M. Nolte, Dean of University Extension, University of Minnesota
Charles J. Turck, President, Macalester College, St. Paul

Eligibility and Cost

The institute is open upon equal terms to all interested persons. The combined registration and tuition fee will be \$4.00, and application for admission to the institute should be made by filling out in complete form the attached application blank and mailing it with remittance (payable to the University of Minnesota) to the Center for Continuation Study, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis 14, Minnesota.

It is hoped that there will be a large attendance from outside the Twin City area and that representatives not only from various chapters of the League of Women Voters but also from all civic groups will wish to register. For those coming from outside of the Twin City area, the services and facilities of the Center for Continuation Study dormitory will be available to the capacity of the building. The enclosed blank gives full information as to room rates, and reservation for lodging in the dormitory (subject to limitations of available space) may be made at the time application for registration is sent in.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Center for Continuation Study

INSTITUTE ON POLITICAL PARTY RESPONSIBILITY IN A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY

October 17, 18, 19, 1946
(Thursday, Friday, Saturday)

Application Blank

Name _____

Please print

Address _____

Position and Employer _____

Education Record (for the registration files of the University):

Preparatory School _____ Date _____

College _____ Degree _____ Date _____

Graduate School _____ Degree _____ Date _____

Date of last attendance at University of Minnesota _____

Services desired (Please check type of room you wish reserved for you):

Double room, without bath (each person \$1.50 a day)
Single room, without bath (\$1.75 a day)
Double room, with bath (each person \$2.00 a day)
Single room, with bath (\$2.50 a day) (number very limited)

If you wish to share a double room with another member of the course write the name here _____

Please check if you wish space in the Center garage:

Day parking (7:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.), 35¢ a day
24-hour parking, 75¢ a day

A check in one of the spaces above will constitute a garage reservation and a stall will be reserved for your car.

Meals may be obtained separately: breakfast, a la carte; luncheon, 70¢; dinner, 95¢.

Please indicate date and approximate time of arrival _____

I enclose \$4.00 (check or money order payable to the University of Minnesota) in payment of registration and tuition for the Institute on Political Party Responsibility in a Democratic Society, October 17, 18 and 19, 1946. I understand that \$2.00 of this fee will be retained by the University in the event that I cancel my registration at any time, but that, if my application is rejected by the committee or if for any reason the course is not held the entire sum will be refunded.

Date _____

Signature of applicant _____

Mail to Center for Continuation Study, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis 14, Minn.

Minnesota League of Women Voters
832 Lumber Exchange
Minneapolis 1, Minnesota

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES-1946

Name of candidate _____

Address _____

Legislative District _____

1) Information as to the candidate's personal qualifications:

A. Education

B. Occupation

C. Civic activities

D. Public offices

E. Which of your experiences do you believe would be (or have been)
most useful to you as a legislator?

2) Information as to the candidate's stand on the following issues

A. LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH BILL

Do you favor a legislative research committee which would maintain and supervise a qualified research staff to carry on a program of fact-finding and other legislative assistance?

B. HOUSING

Do you favor permissive legislation which would enable Minnesota to participate in the Federal Public Housing Program?

C. EXTENSION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

It has been suggested that many counties in Minnesota that do not now public health departments could do so if they would join together in larger units. Would you favor legislation giving counties this permission?

D. EDUCATION

Do you favor a revised plan for distribution of state aids to schools to equalize educational opportunities throughout the state?

E. CIVIL SERVICE

Would you use your influence to maintain a strong Civil Service System and would you vote against any weakening amendments?

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Center for Continuation Study

NOV 8

Institute on Political Party Responsibility in a Democratic Society
Registrants Oct. 17-19, 1946

Florence W. Aldrich	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. Arthur B. Anderson	St. Paul, Minnesota
Joyce K. Anderson	Northfield, Minnesota
Mrs. Karl Andresen	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. William Balfour	Rochester, Minnesota
Matilda O. Bower	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. Jean Bryan	St. Paul, Minnesota
Mrs. Frank E. Byers	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. Chauncey G. Chase	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. Edward C. Congdon	Duluth, Minnesota
Mrs. Robert M. Crounse	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. Leslie S. Davis	Hopkins, Minnesota
Mrs. Walter E. Davis	Hopkins, Minnesota
Mrs. Philip S. Duff	Wayzata, Minnesota
Lorraine F. Erickson	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Edythe Horswill	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. C. Edward Howard	Excelsior, Minnesota
Florence P. Jacobs	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. R. A. Jensen	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Edith Clare Kees	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Cecilia Keyes	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. Niles Kjelson	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. Paul Kunian	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Lolita H. Lovewell	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. J. R. McHamara	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. Irvine McQuarrie	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Caroline Marshall	Duluth, Minnesota
Saralou M. Mather	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. L. E. Mills	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. J. K. Moen	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. A. P. Mootz	St. Paul, Minnesota
Barbara J. O'Neill	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. Walter Philippsthal	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. Charles Rauch	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. James L. Schlafer	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Betty Lou Schoen	St. Paul, Minnesota
Mrs. Edwin L. Schujahn	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. James Slocum	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Marjorie H. Steele	Duluth, Minnesota
Laurie M. Streeter	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Marian W. Thornton	St. Paul, Minnesota
Mary M. Tibbetts	Duluth, Minnesota
Mrs. William P. Van Evera	Duluth, Minnesota
Mrs. Burton F. Vessey	Hopkins, Minnesota
Mrs. Abbott M. Washburn	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. J. E. Wettleson	Mankato, Minnesota
Mrs. Harold L. Wilson	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mrs. Glenn Wyer	Wayzata, Minnesota

THE MINNEAPOLIS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

84 South Tenth Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Telephone: Atlantic 6319

September 20, 1946

Dear

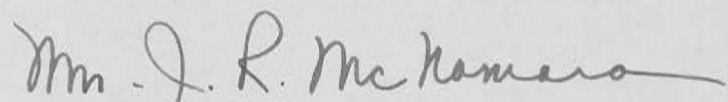
The League of Women Voters is pleased to announce its sponsorship of an Institute at the University of Minnesota Continuation Center on "Political Party Responsibility In a Democratic Society." The Institute will be held on October 17, 18 and 19 (concluding at noon on Saturday, the 19th). The registration fee will be \$4.00.

The historical background of our present party system, significant realignments within political parties, the place and function of minor party organizations, and party responsibility in the United States are just a few of the topics to be discussed in what we believe will be an unusually interesting and stimulating course. A well-chosen staff of faculty members will have charge of the discussion meetings; plans are also being made to have leaders in political party organizations participate in the presentation of subjects involving practical politics and local party organization.

We are sending this preliminary announcement to you because we feel that you and members of your organization might be especially interested in attending. The complete program and registration blanks will be mailed to you in a short time. Additional copies will be mailed to any person whose name is left at the League office. The telephone number is Atlantic 6319.

Will you kindly post the announcement or call it to the attention of your membership in any way which you deem desirable?

Sincerely yours,


Mrs. J. R. McNamara
President

DMcN:j

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

STATE PRES.

FILE COPY

July 2, 1948

Mrs. Edward C. Congdon
415 Hawthorne Road
Duluth 5, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Congdon:

In answer to your inquiry regarding voters service information, I am not sure exactly what type of material you are interested in. Leagues have prepared many different sorts of publications, depending on the local or state need.

The three most frequent items, which may answer your need, are: (1) a directory of local, county, state, federal and U.S. officials, such as those put out by:

Mrs. Walter Neale, President, League of Women Voters of New York City, 461 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, New York.

Mrs. Fay B. Murphy, Jr., President, League of Women Voters of Chattanooga, 26 Chamberlain Building, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Mrs. Palmer C. Putnam, President, League of Women Voters of Brookline, 82 Monmouth Street, Brookline 46, Massachusetts.

(2) a citizens manual or handbook, such as those put out by:

Mrs. Carl Marcy, 2600 So. Hayes, Arlington, Virginia.

Mrs. J. Allen Hickerson, 56 Cold Spring Street, New Haven 11, Connecticut.

Mrs. Saul Rosenberg, 1950 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut. (10¢)

Mrs. Arthur L. Ranschoff, Box 245, Glenbrook, Connecticut. (15¢)

Dr. Katharine Blunt, 38 Glenwood Avenue, New London, Connecticut.

Mrs. Mable Dresser, 2205 Madison Avenue, Burlington, Iowa. (15¢)

Mrs. Arthur Rose, 92 Elm Street, Maplewood, New Jersey. (Summer Address until Sept. 15: 36 Cedar Grove Beach Club, New Dorp, Staten Island 6, New York.) (35¢)

Mrs. James Henle, West Hartsdale Avenue, Hartsdale, New York. (15¢)

Mrs. John P. Gillin, Box 1085, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Mrs. Carl Frasure, 503 Pythian Street, Morgantown, West Virginia. (10¢)

NOTE: The above are local League presidents.

(3) information on candidates. Two samples are enclosed. In addition you may wish to write to the following Leagues:

Mrs. Dayton O. Slater, Jr., 24 Yale Street, Chatham, New Jersey.

Mrs. David S. Frank, 912 Spitzer Building, Toledo 4, Ohio.

Mrs. Frank Shaw, 33 W. College Street, Oberlin, Ohio. (State Pres.)

Mrs. Victor Barnett, c/o YWCA Bldg., 116 W. 5th Street, Tulsa 6, Oklahoma. (State Pres.)

C
O
P
Y

Mrs. Congdon

page 2.

7/2/48

Mrs. William B. Ruggles, 3701 Stratford Avenue, Dallas 5, Texas.
(Dallas County League)

Miss Johnnie Hilbur, 220 Collier Building, Atlanta 3, Georgia.
(State Pres.)

Mrs. Hilmar Grondahl, 308 Education Center Building, Portland,
Oregon.

Sincerely yours,

Muriel Ferris
Congressional Secretary

W/c

FILE COPY

MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

914 Marquette Avenue
MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINNESOTA
Atlantic 0941

June 1, 1944

The League of Women Voters of the State of Minnesota and the City of Minneapolis has assumed a responsibility this election year which we have not tried before, namely, to provide the voters of our city with a bulletin of concise and accurate information on the offices to be filled and the candidates who are contesting for those offices in the primary election. We are sending a questionnaire to every candidate for office. Questions pertain to the particular office for which the candidate has filed or to his personal attitude on some phase of government in which the League is interested. Will you cooperate with us in this effort to have the citizen know what our local government problems are and which candidates are best qualified to help with their solutions?

Will you answer the enclosed questionnaire and RETURN IT TO THIS OFFICE BEFORE JUNE 10th so that we may complete our record and make it available to the public at once. If we do not hear from you by that time, a statement to that effect will appear in our bulletin.

If space permits we will include other pertinent information you may care to add regarding your own qualifications or attitudes.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Irvine McQuarrie
State Chairman for
Candidates Questionnaires

VMcQ:j
Encl.



Affiliated with the
National League of Women Voters

FILE COPY

mailed
10-1-46

MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
832 Lumber Exchange Building
Minneapolis 1, Minnesota

FILE COPY

(Atlantic 0941)

September 26, 1946

Dear Local League President:

Your league has been chosen to conduct this year's Congressional interview. This is an important phase of league work - your candidates are glad to give you time.

Interviews with Congressional candidates will be particularly helpful this year because

1. They will disclose your congressman's views on the subject of internationalism. Never in the world's history has the trend of international affairs loomed so grave.
2. We are facing a crisis in our domestic policy - shall we face inflation or deflation? Your congressman should have a clear-cut attitude toward curbing either of these.
3. They will acquaint you with your congressman personally, so that when you contact him in the future you are not "just another constituent".

It is interesting and of consequence to your future vote to com-

The National League publication "Significant Roll Calls - 79th Congress" and the Supplement thereto dated August 5, 1946, show how your congressman voted on legislation vital to the four items on the agenda adopted at the national league convention held in Kansas City last spring.

forum. Invite your congressman and his opponent. Use the record, here, as a basis for discussion. The person who conducts the forum should be thoroughly familiar with league policy. Permit the congressman to defend his record, even though it may conflict with the League's position. Do not antagonize the candidate. If you can find an item on which he voted League-wise, commend him for his vote. In other words, be tactful and fair with all candidates.

Suggested items for discussion might be: "Atomic Energy - who should have final control?"; "The Andresen amendment to price control extension - what was its value?"; "What is your attitude toward rent and housing ceilings?"; "What do you think of returning U. S. Employment Service to the states?"; "If elected would you vote to adopt the committee Reorganization Act as part of the rules of the House?" or (if candidate for Senate) "If elected would you vote against repeal of the Legislative Reorganization Act?".

These are only suggestions - you may have many more thought-provoking questions. Do not hesitate to use your own originality and ingenuity.

FILE COPY

mailed
10-1-44

MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
832 Lumber Exchange Building
Minneapolis 1, Minnesota

FILE COPY

(Atlantic 0941)

September 26, 1946

Dear Local League President:

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1. They will disclose your congressman's views on the subject of internationalism. Never in the world's history has the trend of international affairs loomed so grave.
2. We are facing a crisis in our domestic policy - shall we face inflation or deflation? Your congressman should have a clear-cut attitude toward curbing either of these.
3. They will acquaint you with your congressman personally, so that when you contact him in the future you are not "just another constituent".

It is interesting and of consequence to your future vote to compare your congressman's verbal expression with his record.

The Roll Call which is enclosed is based primarily on the agenda adopted at the national league convention held in Kansas City last spring. You will note that it is divided into four parts.

We suggest that your interview might take the form of a public forum. Invite your congressman and his opponent. Use the record, here, as a basis for discussion. The person who conducts the forum should be thoroughly familiar with league policy. Permit the congressman to defend his record, even though it may conflict with the League's position. Do not antagonize the candidate. If you can find an item on which he voted League-wise, commend him for his vote. In other words, be tactful and fair with all candidates.

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These are only suggestions - you may have many more thought-provoking questions. Do not hesitate to use your own originality and ingenuity.

If you should have a private interview instead of a forum, your approach and the questions asked could be much the same as in the forum. Should you plan a private interview, set the time and place at once. To maintain the League's reputation for unpartisanism we suggest that the interview be conducted by one league member from each political party.

This type of procedure is not a questionnaire. Simple "yes and no" answers do not give enough information to be really helpful. What is most valuable is the WHY - the philosophy back of the reasoning.

We suggest that you try to record the statements of the candidates in much the same manner as Mike Halloran does for the Minneapolis Star-Journal - from an objective, unpartisan viewpoint. Refer the results to your local newspaper for possible publication, having first, of course, secured permission from the candidate to do so. (In fact, he should read your report and approve it in writing before it is submitted for publication). We would appreciate receiving copies of your report as soon after the forum or interview as possible.

Sincerely,

Cecilia Keyes
Mrs. Leonard Keyes
Pre-election Chairman

CK:s
Enc.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
832 Lumber Exchange Building
Minneapolis 1, Minn. (At. 0941)

February 2, 1948

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Since local elections have a way of "creeping up", why not set up NOW an election calendar so that you may familiarize your members and your community with the dates for

1. Filing candidate's petitions
2. Registration
3. Application for absentee ballots
4. Deadline for absentee ballots
5. Primary elections
6. Final elections

This calendar will not only help you get out the vote in your community but will provide a basis for planning your League's municipal pre-election activities. Although the League as an organization cannot participate in partisan political activities, it does recognize the basic importance of a good two-party government. To arouse interest and stimulate individual participation in parties you may wish to include in your calendar the dates of the party Caucuses.

As a first step in preparing such a calendar and your League's subsequent pre-election activities, you should ascertain how your local government is organized and what it does for you. Is it organized as a City? As a Village? Or as a Township?

A. IF ORGANIZED AS A CITY -

Cities in Minnesota are arranged by law into four classes as follows:

First Class Over 50,000 inhabitants

In cities of this class, voters must register with the commissioner 20 days before election day. Candidates must file not more than 30 days before an election, or less than 20 days. Many cities of this class have home rule charters, and since the time of election is fixed by the city charter, there is considerable variation between the different cities.

*Second Class 20,000 to 50,000 inhabitants

*Third Class 10,000 to 20,000 inhabitants

Fourth Class 10,000 inhabitants or less

*Registration and filing laws applying to cities of the First Class apply also to cities of the Second and Third Class.

97 municipalities in Minnesota are classified as cities.

Find out whether or not your city has a home rule charter which governs the time of your municipal elections. In cities where the home rule charter has made no provision for the election of school board members, such officials may be elected, in a separate ballot, at city elections.

After you have ascertained your dates, acquaint yourself with your city's type of government. Is it classified as

1. The Council-Mayor form with a weak mayor;
2. The Council-Mayor form with a strong mayor, sometimes called the federal form;
3. The Commission Plan;
4. The Council-Manager Plan or City-Manager Plan?

80 Minnesota cities have the council-mayor type; 9 the commission type, and 5 the council-manager type.

What are the offices to be filled? What are the powers and duties of each office?

B. IF ORGANIZED AS A VILLAGE -

642 communities in Minnesota are organized as villages. Their governments are not all alike because they have been incorporated and are operating under 4 general classes of laws. The main features of their organizations and operations, however, are very much the same. Any community which has been platted into lots and blocks and contains a population of not more than 10,000 and not less than 100 may become incorporated as a village. Under certain conditions some villages may be incorporated with not less than 50 inhabitants.

According to a law of 1929 all Village elections must take place on the 1st Tuesday after the 1st Monday in December each year. There are some exceptions to this law, a few villages operating under special laws.

Village officers are:

1. A Council, consisting of a president elected for a term of 2 years; 3 Trustees, one elected each year for a term of 3 years; a clerk, elected for a 2 year term. All other officers are elected for 2 years. If the village has a municipal judge, he is elected for 4 years (Laws of 1941).
2. Treasurer
3. Assessor
4. Two constables
5. Two justices of peace, unless a municipal judge is elected

C. IF ORGANIZED AS A TOWNSHIP -

The term "township" means simply an area, six miles square, which has been laid out by government survey. Township government in the U. S. was first established in what is now the State of Massachusetts. This type of local government, the purest form of democratic government that we have, because in the township form of government the business of the township is decided by the people directly and not by elected representatives, is found in Minnesota. There are 1,980 such units of local government in this State.

Annual town meetings in Minnesota are held the 2nd Tuesday in March. Special meetings may be called by petition signed by 2 officers and 12 other freeholders of the town. Officers are elected at annual meeting. Officers are:

1. Board of Supervisors consisting of 3 supervisors, 1 elected each year for a term of 3 years. All other town officers are elected for a 2 year term except the overseer of highways who has a 1 year term. Powers and duties of the supervisors include: Serving as judges of election; serving as members of town board of health and members of town board of equalization; having charge of roads and bridges, not state aided; allowing bills against the town; and making an annual report to the town.
2. The Town Clerk
3. The Town Treasurer
4. The Town Assessor
5. 2 Constables
6. Town Road Overseer

State Primary Elections are held the 2nd Tuesday in September preceding any general election.

State General Elections are held the 1st Tuesday after the 1st Monday in November of even numbered years.

HOW TO APPRAISE THE CANDIDATE'S QUALIFICATIONS

After learning the time and manner of your local elections, the most important consideration is "What are the candidate's qualifications?".

You may ask: (1) Is the candidate a good citizen? (2) What experience has he had in business? (3) What is his reputation in the community? However, a high rating on the above factors will not necessarily mean that the candidate's philosophy of government is sound. You should also learn from him what he sees as the problems confronting him if elected to office.

In the case of a candidate for Mayor you might ask:

1. Is he satisfied with the "status quo" regarding your city charter or does he wish to improve it? Allow him to check () Present form, () Mayor-Council, () Strong Mayor, () City Manager.
2. Does he believe that
 - (a) The mayor should possess the veto power?
 - (b) The mayor should appoint public personnel, chief of police, librarian, office personnel?

FILE COPY

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

832-33 LUMBER EXCHANGE BUILDING

MINNEAPOLIS 1, MINNESOTA

Atlantic 0941

June 19, 1948

Dear League President:

Re: Party Platforms

Supplementing our letter of June 2nd relative to interviewing delegates to the party National Conventions in an effort to improve party platforms, will you please arrange to have a member of your League interview the following delegate_ to the Democratic National Convention to be held at Philadelphia July 12th:

Sincerely,

Mrs. Malcolm Hargraves
President



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

File

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
84 So. 10th Street, Room 417
Minneapolis 2, Minnesota
August 3, 1948.

SUGGESTED OUTLINE FOR FORMULATING PLANS - With ideas for publicity not already covered by National League Publications.

- I. Familiarize Members and Community with following facts. A neat way to do all these reminders is to arrange with your newspaper to have a space set aside for a box saying simply -

"Don't forget -- if you want to vote September 14 -- you must be registered by August 24th", or "Thirty-four and one-half million persons actually voted in 1946 - Did You? How about 1948?". "About 32 million men and women have never registered to vote. Registration in _____ ends August 24th for the Primary Elections on September 14th". Make your own variations - these are just ideas.

A. Deadline for candidate filing

- B. Registration - Booths to remind people to register are good. They should be put in places that will reach a cross section of the voters. Our Voters booths can be made attractive very inexpensively by using bunting and simple posters.

- C. Applications for Absentee Ballots - be sure the time put on this part of your campaign is economical of woman power. It can be time-consuming with disappointing results. Very often your City Clerk has ideas on absentee ballots and will himself supply the manpower to take them to shut-ins. Talk to him about it.

D. Deadlines for Absentee Ballots

E. Primary Elections

1. The Voters in our United States have never yet been convinced that the Primary Elections are as important as the General Election. Maybe we can help to do it this year. Here again our booths are helpful in getting real information to the public. Again the booths should be placed to get to a good cross-section of the voters. Do read your Election Handbook for ideas for sound information to be given out at the booths.
2. A doorbell ringing campaign is fun. Take with you some kind of inexpensive handbill that says, in effect, - VOTE. Perhaps your editor will help you get them printed.
3. Street posters - sound suggestions are in League Poster number 109.
4. Window displays - One Minnesota League has used this idea with tremendous success. The display includes a map of the town, with the voting places carefully shown. In some communities the department stores are no longer willing to give space to this kind of project. It's worth trying.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
August 3, 1948
Suggested Outline for
Formulating Pre-election Plans (Continued)

5. Newspaper ads cost us money. If we do a good enough job on all other parts of our campaign, paid ads may not be necessary. One paid ad can never take the place of consistent publicity of all kinds. Used as a part of our campaign paid ads are good. Again, simplicity is successful. Our message is direct - VOTE. A cluttered ad defeats our purpose.
6. Radio time can be useful. The League of Women Voters booklet "If We Want to Air Our Views" is a thorough discussion for us to use. It is full of ideas and concrete examples for us to plan variations on. We know radio stations are eager to cooperate with us. But we must use our time carefully. Let your station manager know your full campaign plans, ask him for ideas, he has them. He knows the public is less interested in what is good for them than in straight entertainment. If you let your manager know you know this too you'll probably get more time than you will if you make him feel he has to supply time because we are entitled to it.
7. Sound truck - if it costs too much to hire one maybe you can beg a portable public address system from somebody and use it in your own car. This is a good gadget and is worthy of a news story. What to say when you're wired for sound? Plan it around the 30 second spot announcement in "If We Want to Air Our Views".
8. Will your theaters use a slide? Many do.
9. If your paper is a daily maybe you could plan interviews and pictures with interesting people and beautiful girls on why they're going to vote and why they think others should. This is better for a daily unless you get to your weekly editor long enough in advance to use it for several weeks.

F. General Election - All suggestions for the Primary elections fit here too.

II. Set up Pre-Election Campaign

- A. Secure list of all candidates filed
- B. Learn qualifications and stand of all candidates
 1. Interview using questionnaires and other suggested questions
 2. Hold candidates' meetings
- C. Arrange for Publicity
- D. Get-out-the-vote - using all techniques outlined under Primary Election.
- E. Plan intensive information campaign on the amendments having to do with the revision of the Minnesota Constitution. The Public Relations Committee will send you more on these immediately after the primary election September 14th.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
August 3, 1948
Suggested Outline for
Formulating Pre-election Plans (Continued)

III. Activities Calendar

- A. Interview all Legislative Candidates before September 1st and report them to the State Office
- B. Take questionnaires to all candidates at interview
- C. Interview all Congressional Candidates before September 8th and send reports to State Office
- D. Set up information booth (Election Handbook) September 7-10th
- E. Hold pre-primary candidates' meetings before September 8th
- F. Hold pre-general candidates' meetings before October 25th
- G. Send report of all Voters' Service activities to State Office not later than November 10th

All dates and activities on this calendar are merely suggestions. It's up to you to adapt them to the size and needs of your own community. Don't be afraid to try them and any others you may think of.

Avis Brustuen, Voters' Service Chairman
Ann Kehl)
Betty Runyon), Public Relations Committee

Minnesota League of Women Voters

914 Marquette Avenue

Minneapolis 2, Minn.

New Address: → 84 S. 16th St. Room 417



Affiliated with the
National League
of Women Voters

FILE COPY

ACTION

August 4, 1948

Dear President:

We'd like to drag out our crystal ball and see what you've done in the past years on "getting-out-the-vote" - then we could give you a "get-out-the-vote" kit that would help you do a bang-up job. Since we can't do that, we'll assume:

1. That you have a Voters Service Chairman
2. That you've done Legislative and Congressional interviews (questionnaires in this kit)
3. That you've done some work with your local newspapers on "getting-out-the-vote".

But have you tried this in your community mixing bowl?

CANDIDATES MEETING!

It's fascinating, fun, and non-controversial - and besides that it's informative and enlightening. This is the exclusive model of civic service that the League alone can perform. It makes everybody happy - the candidate, the political parties, the voters.

THE RECIPE?

Take one moderator - a man with a strong personality who commands the love and respect of your community.

A place indoors or outdoors - that's up to you.

Add your candidates. Now you have to set the date. For a pre-primary candidates' meeting we suggest the week of September 1st. For a pre-general meeting try the week of October 18th. In any case, set the date far enough ahead of time to procure all the candidates, and to do a whizz-bang job of "letting the people know."

Mix well with good publicity (radio, newspaper and handbills) and serve to an eager audience remembering always the good solid League rules for any such meeting.

1. Be non-partisan and impartial.
2. Start meeting on time and limit the length of each candidate's speech.
3. Decide the issues to be discussed, state them in your invitation to each candidate, and suggest that he confine his remarks to those issues.
4. Allow time at the end of the meeting for questions from the floor.
5. If possible, it's nice to have the candidates meet their audience informally after the meeting. They deserve this break.

Now doesn't that sound like fun? Please try it this year and let us know your plans as soon as they're complete. Especially the time, place and speakers.

As for other ideas - we've sat around for days mulling over our "get-out-the-vote" campaign, but we can't think of a single thing that's better than what you can find in the National League's "ELECTION HAND-BOOK" (# 57 - price 10¢). It's wonderful! and used together with the brown poster #109 - price 15¢ it will carry you through the pre-election campaign with flying colors. Besides a detailed discussion of candidates' meetings, you'll find these two bursting with all kinds of other techniques for "getting-out-the-vote". They can be your best friends between now and November 2nd. You'll no doubt find other useful material in your files such as "get-out-the-vote" broadsides #111 and #112. Why not use them in a door-bell ringing campaign?

One more thing we mustn't forget. There will be four amendments on the ballot November 2nd. One has to do with a soldiers' bonus and another with a county-state 50-50 split of gas tax funds for highway construction and upkeep. The other two - as you already know - deal with revision of the State Constitution. As this is our "State Current Agenda," we have to do a bang-up job of serving them to the public. So please reserve lots of time and effort for after September 14th to do this. We'll have the information and broadsides for you plus area meetings on Constitutional Revision in plenty of time. Plan to use these broadsides in every way possible - door to door, under plates at Kiwanis, Lions, Rotary, etc., window displays.

Well, there it is - the job to be done. On second and third reading it won't seem like so much work and you'll find that it all falls into place as you go along. Again, we want to stress the excellence of the handbook, the poster, and the broadsides. If you think we've left out some of the ingredients or directions, let us know and we'll get them to you, posthaste!

Sincerely,

THE VOTERS SERVICE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Bryant Johnson, St. Paul
Mrs. Donald Guthrie, White Bear
Mrs. T. O. Everson, Minneapolis

Mrs. R. Brustuen, St. Paul (Chairman)
Mrs. Harry Heltzer, So. St. Paul
Mrs. Leonard Keyes, Columbia Heights

VOTERS' SERVICE AND LEGISLATIVE INTERVIEWS

MANKATO 9/7/48 - Yes we have had conferences with our legislative and congressional candidates. Copies sent state office.

MAHTOMEDI 9/6/48 No legislative candidates have been interviewed

AUSTIN At September meeting emphasized ~~that~~ intelligent voting as an essential of good citizenship. Miss Gertrude Banfield reviewed qualifications of candidates for U. S. Senate and house of rep. and the state legislature. Outlined their backgrounds in education, civic activities, political offices held & their stands on various issues of importance.

Sept. 1948
Enclosed with gas light and water bills a pink flyer reading:

ARE YOU CORRECTLY REGISTERED TO VOTE?

You must be a resident of the State Six Months and of your Voting Precinct 30 days. If your name has been changed by marriage or you have changed your address, you must re-register. Register at the City Recorder's Office on or before October 12, 1948 to be Eligible to Vote in the General Election.

The League of Women Voters

Published 16 page printed Voter's Guide (copy in file)

Ran reminders on screen at movies every day for a week
Placed ads in newspaper. Wrote pastors of churches requesting him to remind citizens of their duty as a citizen to vote. All this before primary registration date Aug. 24.

RESULT 500 more registered

Before Nov. election committee will call every number in tel. book with a reminder to register.

Also had loud speaker touring streets with "HAVE YOU REGISTERED?"

MINNEAPOLIS

Had four Voters' Information Booths. *for much (?)*
Distributed mimeographed lists of candidates
One sheet printed Voters' Information (primaries, general elect and offices to be filled - District Maps City of Mpls and Rural Hennepin Co. inf.)
One sheet printed "Make a Note be sure to Vote - with roll call of congress and state legis. (Mpls and Henn. Districts)
Had candidates questionnaires on file in office and volunteers manned telephone to answer inquiries on these
Distributed mimeographed sheets "How platforms of three parties compare"

*Trust a copy is sent to the
The League Policy on Non-Partisan*

ST. PAUL - Distributed fliers with registration information

HIBBING Had Voters Information booth

MAHTOMEDI Reviewed at meeting repub and dem. candates and party platforms

LAKE CITY Oct. 14 will interview legislative and congressional candidates.
Sept. 1st held forum for all of county candidates. It was a very successful
and well attended meeting.

Sr 88
Paul

FILE COPY

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

832-33 LUMBER EXCHANGE BUILDING

MINNEAPOLIS 1, MINNESOTA

Atlantic 0941

March 15, 1949

Dear Voters Service Chairman:

Your State Voters Service Committee needs your help. Will you please fill out the enclosed questionnaire and return it to the State office as soon as possible? Would you see that it reaches this office by March 25?

It is to be hoped that your honest and thoughtful answers will help us to evaluate our Voters Service program, eliminate unnecessary material and/or add more if you desire it. To aid you in answering the questions, please refer to the Voters Service kit sent you last fall.

How about your municipal election activity? Can we help you further at that time? To do so we will have to know when your municipal elections are held.

Your prompt consideration of this questionnaire will be appreciated and will be incorporated in recommendations to the national office.

Sincerely,

Reuben C. Brustuen

Mrs. Reuben C. Brustuen
Voters Service Chairman

Enc.



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

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

832-33 LUMBER EXCHANGE BUILDING

MINNEAPOLIS 1, MINNESOTA

Atlantic 0941

Now Address:→ 84 S. 10th St. Room 417

05
League

October 27, 1949

Dear Voters' Service Chairman:

Have you made plans to go or send an alternate to the Voters' Service Conference in Chicago on November 9 and 10? An off-election year seems a golden opportunity to take stock and improve our techniques. The conference should offer us a fresh approach and some new ideas.

The conference will cover a day and one half and includes a discussion on "Parties, Politics and People" by Mrs. Milburn Akers, Political Editor of the Chicago Sun-Times and two "practical politicians", a panel discussion on "What the U. S. to you?", national's new quiz, an exchange of ideas on what has and can be done by the League on Voters' Service, and an "Open House" at the Illinois League offices.

May I suggest your delegate not only go prepared to take notes but also to suggest what methods have been most successful in your town. If you have produced any outstanding or novel flyers, window cards, hand-books, etc., it would be nice if we could show them samples, as what can be seen is more concrete and vivid than what is heard.

It would help me greatly if you would be kind enough to notify me (as well as the Chicago Area Chairman: Mrs. H. J. Monger, 2315 N. Kilpatrick Avenue, Chicago) whether your League is sending one or more delegates. My address is 416 Maple Avenue, Fergus Falls.

Here's hoping to see you in Chicago!

Yours truly,

/s/ Mrs. Roy Nelson

Mrs. Roy Nelson
Voters' Service Chairman



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