

League of Women Voters of Texas

612 NORTH 18TH STREET ◦ WACO, TEXAS

March 12, 1965

TO: Local League Presidents Only
FROM: Mrs. Maurice H. Brown
RE: A personal message

These last two weeks before Council have been particularly busy in the state office - not only have we been preparing the material that you will use at Council but you are aware, of course, of the extra work that the legislative session has brought. I wouldn't feel quite right about going into the Council sessions, however, unless I took time to send you this personal message.

Some of you are completing your terms as presidents of your local Leagues, some of you have been reelected or will be to second terms -- to each of you, I wish to express my feelings of extreme gratitude and pleasure in the fine job well done this past year. I honestly think that the LWV of Texas has just about closed out one of its most successful years. Much of this success would not have been possible without your help and cooperation.

I want to share with you a personal note that accompanied a recent Field Service report on the six-months' activities of the Leagues assigned to one of our FS consultants. I think you will be as pleased as I was - and, it should be added, this same note could have accompanied almost every FS report that was made for our Pre-Council State Board meeting.

"Reading them over, I'm really very proud. It seems to me that these Leagues are operatin very well. I can see some of the fruits of our labor, and theirs, of course!...especially regular Field Service visits for Board training, and the painstaking kind of correspondence that most of us carry on with the presidents when it seems indicated. I can read in these Finance stories some pretty careful planning, and more carry-through than was always the case. Also it seems to me that more people are involved and that more originality is used in putting together local flyers. I suppose that national's decision not to put out a flyer, but to make quotes available, is a sound one. Is it possible that we could get some state ones?"

Local Program | "I think that we could be helpful if we had some further focus on how to do a local program in the year to come. And the suggestion that we have National Program Days in the summer is fine.

"In culling the Voters for these reports, it occurs to me that they are using the Voters better to get program information to the membership, though some of them have a way to go. And think of the postage saved...."

May I add that the entire state Board is really very proud of the local Leagues in Texas?

A personal message.....page 2

I'm sure you are aware that we have departed somewhat from the pattern we had established of sending legislative Information Sheets and Times for Action to the vice-presidents and publications chairmen as we do with all Program information, these past few weeks. This has been done for two reasons: 1) a savings on postage to you - by sending three copies to the president for redistribution, we save the cost of individual postage on almost 150 additional pieces of mail; and 2) the workload in the state office has been so tremendous that just not addressing, stuffing, stamping, and taking that many pieces to the post office has given us more time for other jobs. We will return to the normal practice after Council.

There may not be an opportunity to tell you about the exciting organization news from El Paso and the Bay Area at Council and I feel sure that you will find it as interesting as we do. The organization meeting of the Provisional LWV of El Paso will be held either March 31 or during the first week in April...and we think that observers from El Paso may attend Council at their own expense. When Mrs. Braunagel was there a few weeks ago to interview businessmen, etc., about the organization of a League in El Paso, the most recurring statement made was, "What took you so long to get here?" I am inordinately pleased that we have made this step during my term as state president; I'm just as disturbed that it "took us so long". The Bay Area organization moves more slowly because we are moving in an entirely new direction here - bringing League membership to women who live in towns too small to support a League individually but who, joined together in an Area League, may find satisfaction in League membership. At the same time, this is a pioneering movement for the LWV of Texas so we are moving slowly and learning as we go. Organization in the Bay Area will probably come in the League year 1965-66, but at the present time, we have not even determined what the name of the League will be nor the number of members that will be required for recognition as a Provisional League.

Will those of you who are not continuing as local League president remind the new president who is coming to Council of the invitation to the Local League Presidents Breakfast on Thursday morning? All presidents will be my guests at breakfast in the Jim Hogg Suite at 7:45 A. M.

Best wishes for a successful new League year to those of you who will continue - you'll be hearing from me again. To those of you who are not continuing, all best wishes for the future - have fun, relax a little, and cheers for a job well done!

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League of Women Voters of Texas

612 NORTH 18TH STREET ◦ WACO, TEXAS

March 10, 1965

TO: All Local Leagues
FROM: The State Budget Committee
RE: The Proposed State Budget

The proposed state budget for 1965-66 is in serious trouble. Perhaps you can help both the budget committee and the future of the state budget.

Proposed pledges for 1965-66 are falling short of the suggested pledges that would have balanced the Expenditure and Income sides of the budget. There was no "fat" in the proposed budget; no expenditure that was not necessary to the health and growth of the LWV of Texas. The state budget committee had already pared Board members' requests to the bare minimum that would maintain a strong operation.

We learned from you in the face-to-face budget-finance meetings last fall that you want all the things that this proposed budget represents. Therefore, we come back to you now for your suggestions of where we can cut the proposed budget so that it will meet the income that we know from your reports to expect. Will you look carefully at the proposed budget to see if you can suggest revisions during the budget discussion at Council?

Many of you have met or exceeded the suggested pledge for which we are especially grateful. Will those of you who were unable to meet the suggestion, please reexamine your own local budgets in the light of the dilemma facing the state budget?

There is one bright piece of news that we want to share with you now, however. Since the budget was proposed and accepted by the state Board last October, a slight increase in income has become apparent. This increase falls far short of balancing the cuts made in suggested pledges, however. The total members-at-large outside El Paso is more today than the 3 we budgeted for (total now 7) so this should be added to the 3 budgeted for, making a total of 10 at \$5. The organization in El Paso, and perhaps in the Bay Area, has reached the point where the fees of these two provisional Leagues should be added to LOCAL AND PROVISIONAL LEAGUE SUPPORT. We have not determined the fee for the Bay Area group yet, but the El Paso fee will be \$100. There is also a possibility of a very slight surplus in this year's operating account which can be added to Income. If there is to be a surplus, we will be able to estimate this at the Pre-Council State Board meeting and this will be reported to you at the time of the budget presentation.

In the meantime, if you have not yet held your Annual Meeting and adopted your local budget, will you please present this problem to your members and ask for their help? If you are still unable to find a solution there, will you then come to Council prepared to tell us what we can and must do without? Any written suggestions that you can send ahead of Council will be greatly appreciated by the budget committee.

We will count on your help.

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PRE-BOARD MAILING - MARCH 1965

TO: State Board
FROM: Mrs. Raymond Freedman
RE: My temporary part of the publications portfolio.

Partial Publications Report

5,000 copies of TEXAS PROSPECTS were published at an approximate cost of 14¢ each, to sell for 25¢.

Because of the time element, and the rapid change of programs developing, it seems imperative that we decide how we want to use the copies which are available for the State League PR. Would Board Members consider this and be prepared to make suggestions to the new Publications person?

Also, we may want to remind the LLs that they should plan to use them while they are current. Much favorable comment has been heard in my part of the world. So while we have it, let's think about how to run with it!

10,000 copies of the new TCR flyer, WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE FACTS OF LIFE IN TEXAS are being printed and should be in the SO by the end of next week (March 12). Please put on your thinking caps and see how you think we can present them at the legislators' breakfast. Any original ideas, anyone?

They are black and white and red all over as in the riddle.... and attractive. The look is rather like a slick birthday card. Sophisticated. The inside is a little more cluttered with type than would be ideal, but a surprising amount of information is there. Its new, its fresh, and its cheap (3¢). How do we use 10,000 copies?

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LWV of Texas
March 1965



PRE-COUNCIL MAILING - MARCH 1965

TO: State Board
FROM: Mrs. James Brock
RE: PR BOARD REPORT

9375
OPINION MAKERS - The master list is in State Office and will be available to those who have a special mailing. If you do anticipate using this list, please let the PR Committee know as soon as possible, so that we may be working on a cofer letter.

IF YOU WANT AIR TIME - Forty copies of this publication, prepared by the National Association of Broadcasters, are in State Office and will be sent to the new PR Chairmen with the post-Board mailing.

TIPS ON REACHING TEXAS - Ready for Council.

COUNCIL PR - Have received note from Cactus Pryor, KTBC-TV, confirming film availability. We (PR Committee) will have lunch with him March 22. Have written Austin PR Chairman requesting assistance. A sample press release has gone out to local Leagues and a letter of invitation drafted to non-League Senators for the Legislative Breakfast

TEXAS PROSPECTS - In addition to the promotion sheet sent out with PROSPECTS, a draft letter has been prepared as cover piece to go with complimentary copies from State.

ANNUAL REPORTS - At this mailing, thirty local PR reports have been received. An evaluation of these reports will be ready for Board meeting. The State report will be ready by the March 15 deadline.

LWV OF TEXAS
March 1965



PRE-BOARD MAILING - MARCH 1965

TO: State Board Members
FROM: Joor
RE: National Program

After the hectic period of getting Texas Prospects ready for publication the past weeks have seemed quiet. The main activity has been legislative - re the meat imports bill (state) and the Water Planning Act (national).

The Pre-Council Board will not need a national report except possibly on the Reapportionment issue. There has been much material from national re this, which hopefully you will have read.

The Post Council Board will need to consider the planning for national program League Days during the summer. We should be able to discover in Conversation Corners if these are wanted and by whom. I have a LARGE wedding (not by choice) the middle of August and will not be able to service each League workshop personally. My preference at the moment is for July.

LWV of Texas
March 1965



PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL - 1965

LEADERS GUIDE FOR LITTLE MEETINGS ON VOTERS SERVICE
9:25 - 10:45 a.m. - Thursday, March 25, 1965

- GROUPINGS:- Designation of which Little Meeting to go to - 1 through 5 - will be done at the registration desk as members register.
- ROOMS:- Assignment of which group goes where will be done after we see the registration list.
- RECORDERS:- Leader and Resource person for each group to choose Recorder for their Little Meeting. This can be done from registration list or from your own knowledge of those attending your session.
- MATERIALS:- Leaders, please check your own files for the publications listed to be mentioned and shown during this session. If you do not have them all, check with your Resource person and/or local League. Last resort - notify State Office.

- #1 { *Crystal Ballroom 5* } BIG CITY LEAGUES - Dallas, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Houston *32 total registered*
- #2 { *T-Ham's Rm* } SATELLITE CITIES - Baytown, Pasadena, Irving, Richardson, Dickinson, LaMarque *20 total registered*
- #3 { *Civic Rm* } MEDIUM SIZE - Lubbock, Austin, Corpus Christi, Midland, Waco, Beaumont, Port Arthur *26 total registered*
- #4 { *Jim Hoag* } SMALL SIZE - Abilene, Amarillo, Tyler, Longview, Odessa, Galveston, Brownsville, Harlingen, Lake Jackson *26 total registered*
- #5 { *Colonial Rm* } SMALL SIZE - Edinburg, Corsicana, Denton, Freeport, San Angelo, San Marcos, Texas City, Victoris, Wichita Falls *28 total registered*

	LEADERSHIP			
	<u>Leader</u>	<u>Resource</u>	<u>Recorder</u>	<u>Room</u>
#1 BIG CITY	Freedman	Ballard		
#2 SATELLITES	Brock	Ziegler		
#3 MEDIUM SIZE	Pollard	Pettis		
#4 SMALL SIZE	Joor	May		
#5 SMALL SIZE	Casperson	Braunagel		

General Session will be held from 9:00 to 9:15 Thursday morning. Allow 10 minutes for delegates and observers to get from General Session to Little Meeting Rooms.

Little Meetings start promptly at 9:25. This allows 1 hour and 20 minutes before the groups go back into the Crystal Ballroom for finger food & coffee.



I. PROCEDURE

- A. Introduce self and Resource person and Recorder (name, town, State or Local portfolio).
- B. Tell participants that a new method of grouping has been used for the local Leagues. Because the size of our state prevents us from holding workshops or conferences on any other basis than area, this is our opportunity to meet with Leagues similar in size and composition. EXCEPTION: Group 2 - a meeting of LLs in cities that are satellites of much larger cities.
- C. Give purpose of Little Meetings:
1. To give delegates and observers the opportunity to discuss informally a vital area of League work - Voters Service.
 2. To explore with exchange of ideas and projects what is being done.
 3. To explore the full scope and possibilities of Voters Service beyond the sometimes limited concepts in which we may presently be working.
 4. To bring into definite focus new areas where we can help toward better understanding of the structure and operation of government...and possible results in the registration and participation of voters as the result of better understanding.
 5. To consider the effects of expanding Voters Service on keeping our members as well as getting them.
- D. Give informal rules of the Little Meetings:
1. Each speaker should keep to the subject under discussion (Voters Service) as well as being as brief as possible.
 2. Give name and League - just as on Council floor - before speaking, for the benefit of the Recorder.
 3. Observers have the privilege of the floor and it is hoped they will want to participate in the discussion.
 4. No one may speak twice on any point of discussion until all others wishing to have had the opportunity to express themselves.
 5. Recorder will give summary at end of discussion.

II. Discussion Outline is provided. Little Meeting Leader asks the questions. Direct discussion or questions to Resource person at any time. Resource person should interject comment if she can add to discussion. Additional questions not on the Outline may occur to you as the discussion progresses. Please feel free to use them.

III. Leaders - collect summary notes from Recorder at end of session and give to Voters Service Chairman as soon as possible.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION - VS LITTLE MEETINGS
PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL - 1965

1. What are you doing now in Voters Service? (Sure to be mentioned, but bring them in if they're not: Voters Guides, Voters Keys, Candidates meetings, TV and radio spots, TV rally, legislative guides, jury service guides, poll tax collections.) Keep this fairly brief. Number 8 allows for more explanation.

2. The League pioneered the first candidates meetings. In many communities the League volunteers were the first to be deputized to collect poll tax. Some Leagues in Texas get a significant part of their income from issuing poll tax.

How many? (Ask for show of hands.)

With the federal poll tax amendment and possible action on the state level - have times changed? Are those of you now counting on the income from issuing poll tax to boost your budget recognizing this may very soon no longer be a source of income?

Is there a Voters Service job to fill this gap (when poll taxes are no longer issued) - maybe not financially, but from the Public Relations standpoint?

3. In some areas there has been a proliferation of non-partisan candidates meetings by organizations such as the Jaycees. Some television stations now present such programs as a Public Service. Do we need to change our concept of service to the voters in Texas?

What other non-partisan service could and should we offer?

Do you know of the TV programs that are being shown by some of our Texas Leagues - offered as a series of citizen education in government programs? (#1 Big City and #2 Satellite will have no trouble discussing this, but 3, 4, and 5 may not know it's being done or how. March, 1965, Fort Worth VOTER has complete page concerning this project. Show and discuss it very briefly if participants don't know about it.)

Since projects such as the above are obviously much more than an average conception of Voters Service - and lead to better understanding of the structure and operation of government which sometimes plays a very minor role in our plans for this portfolio....what would you think of a name change that might be more pertinent? Something such as Citizen Education Service?

(Give participants opportunity to "defend" Voters Service, or express interest in new terminology.)

What could we offer under Citizen Education Service? Or under expanded Voters Service?

(Possibilities to be mentioned if participants do not)

- a. Training programs for the new voter?
- b. Training programs for the Spanish speaking voter?
- c. Training programs for the illiterate?
- d. What about? Programs to help the hospitalized or the handicapped cast his absentee ballot?
- e. What about Government in Action courses? Who knows about the Chamber of Commerce courses on Gov't in Action? Have any of you taken them? Could the League do something like this and do it better? For members? for the community?
- f. What about Go-See Tours?

(more in this same area of discussion on next page)

High school is the final step in the formal education process for the majority of our population. Could the League suggest or implement cooperation with the local school system and/or City and County officials for actual viewing of government at the City Hall and County Courthouse by government classes? What about a workshop for the teachers of government given by the local governmental bodies? Could the League help here?

(Tell participants that such programs are taking place. Refer to (and show) pages 34 and 35 - Panelists Voorsanger, Hunter and Christensen - National Municipal League Conference report from San Francisco.)

4. Certainly most of us would agree, that in the foreseeable future, Voters Guides and Candidates Rallies and meetings in that category will remain a basic part of our work with Voters Service...or Citizens Education Service.

BUT -Who do we reach in our communities? (Someone has said it's the white-Protestant-middle class citizen. Do you think this is true?)

What can the Texas League do about it? *How could we provide all our citizens VS info - statewide citizenship information.*
What do other State Leagues do about it? (Every League gets at least one copy of the SWAP SHOP that National Office sends out occasionally. Last issue - March, 1964. Show a copy to participants.)

5. What National tools are available to help expand Voters Service?

You and Your National Government
Choosing the President
Is Politics your Job?
The Role of Political Parties, U.S.A.
Give the Voter a Hand
ABC's of Your Town's Government
Focus on State Government Kit (not yet available, but will be mailed to all LLs in the near future)

What State tools are available to help expand Voters Service?

A School for Jurors (All on jury service)
Jury Service in State Courts in Texas
A Guide for Jurors

(Each Leader should have copy of both National and State Publications Catalog and above listed tools. Also mention "Handbook for Texas Voters" - University of Texas publication. SB members who have these, please bring for Leaders.)

Do citizens know: How local, state, and national government works?

Qualifications for various offices?
How a bill becomes a law?
How a local referendum may be called?

How can we share this knowledge with the public? Should we hold Practical Politics Workshops on both sides of the tracks? and for everybody? What about cooperation with the YMCA and the YWCA?

Can you think of other tools we need or could use?

6. A specialist in library service for those who until recently were illiterate has said that there is a shortage of suitable library and reading material for them. What does the League have for them?

Are we getting our materials to libraries and places where they can be used? In large enough quantities to be really useful, or do local Leagues usually just prepare a display?

What about selected materials for secondary school government teachers? School libraries? College professors? College libraries?

7. We have a large Latin group here in Texas. These citizens have a high percentage of illiteracy, particularly in the adult age group. What do we offer?

The OEF has just published a new, simplified edition of U.N. FACTS in Spanish. Could we use it here? What about Voters Keys in Spanish? (Explain that the cost of LLs would be higher because of probably lower numbers distributed than the English version.)

8. Does your League have a new or up-dated tool that tells about your community?

How do you use it?

Who paid for its publication?

What possibilities do you see for its use?

Are there people or groups in your community who would help you get it to each newcomer family? What about the Welcome Wagon if your town has one?

9. We've discussed meeting the needs of the community. What about expanding Voters Service for your own membership? Is Voters Service committee one of the best places for a new member to start in the League? What do you offer new members to start their immediate acquaintance with government? Is this a predominant reason they joined?

Does your Voters Service committee include the Public Relations Chairman or a member of her committee? Do you think it should?

Do you think an expanded Voters Service Program in your League would help solve our own "drop-out problem"? Do you foresee that it could increase membership?

Leader end discussion on time - allow a minute for something similar to this: Little Meeting could be closed with this statement (from the Handbook "Give the Voter a Hand"):

"Voters Service work is concerned with certain specifics:

1. Registration requirements and how to make citizens aware of them;
2. Election laws and procedures and how they are put into practice;
3. Information about candidates and how it is brought to the voter;
4. Opportunities for voters to meet and question candidates about their views on issues;
5. Clarification of issues appearing on the ballot;
6. The role of the political parties in the community;
7. Better understanding of the structure and operation of government."

We have tried today to cover these many facets of Voters Service to discover if we understand all the possibilities involved and the benefits to be derived - both for the League and for our communities. The recorder will let us know how well we have succeeded.

RECORDER STARTS REPORTING NOT LATER THAN 10:40.

From Beulah Casperson
LWV of Texas
March 1965

TO: State Board and Budget Committee Members
 FROM: Ballard
 RE: Budget

All the proposed budgets are in except San Angelo. Here are the totals:

LEAGUE	1964-65 PLEDGE	PROPOSED PLEDGE	LOCAL LEAGUE PROPOSED PLEDGE
Abilene	\$200	\$275	\$300 (+25)
Amarillo	350	400	400
Austin	1765	1800	1800
+ Gift	100		
*Baytown	300	400	300 (-100)
Beaumont	700	750	700 (- 50)
Brownsville	815	850	900 (+ 50)
+ Gift	50		
Corpus Christi	1150	1300	1300
Corsicana	370	400	400
Dallas	3575	3800	3700 (-100)
Denton	215	265	265
Dickinson	425	475	450 (- 25)
+ Gift	15		
Edinburg	350	500	350 (-150)
Fort Worth	825	950	950
Freeport	440	500	500
Galveston	500	700	500 (-200)
Harlingen	425	440	325 (-115)
Houston	3200	3500	3500
Irving	465	490	490
Lake Jackson	510	525	500 (- 25)
La Marque	340	370	350 (- 20)
**Longview	400	425	400 (- 25)
Lubbock	1215	1450	1250 (-200)
Midland	1365	1600	1600
Odessa	550	575	550 (- 25)
Pasadena	350	375	350 (- 25)
Richardson	145	175	175
***San Angelo	400	400	
San Antonio	1600	1800	1800
San Marcos	140	165	165
So. Jefferson County	300	325	325
Texas City	400	450	400 (- 50)
Tyler	425	450	425 (- 25)
Victoria	465	500	465 (- 35)
Waco	1125	1150	1150
+Gift	15		
Wichita Falls	225	275	225 (- 50)
TOTALS	\$26,175	\$28,805	\$27,460 (-1345)

- * Baytown - motion to increase proposed pledge will be considered at annual meeting.
- ** Longview - may make additional \$50 "gift"
- *** San Angelo - no budget to date; F/S estimates \$200 pledge. The total of proposed LL pledges above (\$27,460) includes \$200 San Angelo.

While we appear to be \$1345 short on pledges, income is expected to be up as follows:

Proposed Income

LL support	\$27,460	
El Paso fee	100	
Clear Lake fee	50	(Bay Area)
Members-at-Large (7)	35	
Interest	180	
Withdrawal from reserves	1,000	
Balance on hand	200	
<hr/>		
TOTAL INCOME	\$29,025	

Therefore, cuts from the original proposed budget (30,000) must total \$975.00. This is probably a maximum figure.

Where to cut??? A letter went to LLs on March 10 asking for their recommendations, either by mail or at Council.

Suggested cuts (Dorothy's and Katy's) ---

President & Board of Directors	\$3,050	(-200)	<i>means one less (100)</i>
Budget Committee	175	(- 25)	
Nominating Committee	200	(- 25)	
Delegates to Convention	550	(- 50)	
Capital Expenditures	-0-	(- 25)	
VOTER	1,250	(- 50)	
National Services	11,075	(-285)	<i>11,075 is what Nat. suggests</i>
Organizing new Leagues	-0-	(- 80)	
		<hr/>	
		\$ 740	cut

Last year our budgeted income was \$26,375, plus the balance in the operating account, plus the Convention surplus. This year without the proposed withdrawal from reserves our budgeted income would be \$28,025 or only about \$300 more than we actually spent last year. So you see the problems we face.

If there is a good response to the request for LL participation in working out the most effective budget, perhaps we should change the order of presentation of the budget on Tuesday. Thirty minutes is allotted on the agenda. Perhaps this should be divided up like this:

- 5 minutes - Introduction of Committee & brief remarks, there would not be time for detailed explanation.
- 15 minutes - LL pledges and announcement of total.
- 10 minutes - Discussion of WHERE TO CUT

If we want to do this we must tell LLs about it in Workbook #2 or at the latest when they register.

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Note to Cathy Faulkner and Frances Merritt: How and when are you going to Austin? Let's get together as soon as possible Tuesday the 23rd because the Budget Presentation does come so early.