

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I. OFFICERS

Sec. 1. The regular term of office of all officers shall commence at the adjournment of the annual meeting at which they are elected. No officer shall be eligible to hold the same position for more than two years.

Sec. 2. The duties of officers shall be such as are implied by their respective titles, and such as are specified in these by-laws.

Sec. 3. The President shall preside at meetings of the Convention and Executive Committee. She shall be charged with the duty of executing the plans adopted at the annual convention, and by the Executive Committee at its sittings. She shall have the power to incur reasonable expenses in the execution of these plans. She shall be obligated to spend a major portion of her time in the headquarters or in the field in close personal touch with the work. For the proper execution of the work of the organization the President shall have the power to appoint such temporary committees as in her judgment may be necessary, and she shall be ex-officio member of all standing and temporary committees. She shall check up and vouch for the accuracy of all accounts presented for payment. She shall be responsible for the safe keeping of the files of her office and shall turn them over to and secure a receipt for same from her successor.

Sec. 4. The Recording Secretary shall take and preserve accurate minutes of the Annual Conventions and of the Executive Board meetings.

Sec. 5. The Corresponding Secretary shall be diligent in securing auxiliary and direct members. She shall keep an accurate record of the membership and furnish duplicate lists to the President, the Treasurer, and the Recording Secretary.

Sec. 6. The Treasurer shall keep the books and pay all of the accounts of the organization as the bills are presented by the President. She shall collect the pledges and dues and shall be charged with the execution of such financial plans as are adopted by the annual convention. The books of the League shall be closed two weeks prior to the annual convention and audited by an expert auditor and the statement of the auditor presented to the convention by the Treasurer in her annual report.

Sec. 7. The expenses of the Board of Officers shall be paid to the Executive Committee meetings and the State Convention and they shall attend prepared to make a full and complete report and answer all questions concerning the work of their respective positions.

ARTICLE II.

STANDING COMMITTEES

The Texas League of Women Voters authorizes the following eight Standing Committees which correspond to the Standing Committees of the National League:

1. American Citizenship.
2. Protection of Women in Industry.
3. Child Welfare.
4. Improvements in Election Laws and Methods.
5. Social Hygiene.
6. Unification of Laws Concerning the Civil Status of Women.
7. Food Supply and Demand.
8. Research.

ARTICLE III

AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended at the annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS



CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I.

NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Texas League of Women Voters, and it shall be affiliated with the National League of Women Voters, upon the payment of such dues as the Constitution of the National League shall require.

ARTICLE II.

AIM

The aim of this League shall be to increase the effectiveness of women's votes in furthering better government.

ARTICLE III

POLICY

The League as an organization shall be strictly non-partisan, non-sectarian and non-militant in all its activities. Its officers and members are free to join the party of their choice.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Texas League of Women Voters shall be three kinds: affiliated, auxiliary, and direct.

Affiliated Membership—All local leagues of women voters paying dues to the State League of ten cents per capita may become affiliated and shall be entitled to one delegate at large to the annual convention and in addition one delegate for every twenty-five paid-up members.

Auxiliary Membership—Any organization which shall endorse the aims of the State League and pay annual dues of five dollars is eligible for auxiliary membership and entitled to one delegate to the annual convention.

Direct Membership—Any individual may become a member by signing an application for membership, subscribing to the aims of the Texas League of Women Voters, and paying annually the sum of one dollar into the

State treasury. Direct members shall be entitled to the privilege of the floor but not to a vote.

ARTICLE V

OFFICERS

Sec. 1. The officers of the Texas League of Women Voters shall be a President, three Vice Presidents, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer.

Sec. 2. All officers shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting, and continue in office one year.

Sec. 3. A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to constitute an election.

Sec. 4. In the interim of annual elections, vacancies in office of President shall be filled by the Vice Presidents, succeeding to the office of President in their order. All other vacancies shall be filled by election by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI

ORGANIZATION

Sec. 1. The unit of organization shall be the Senatorial District and the County.

Sec. 2. A chairman of each Senatorial District shall be appointed by the President and the Board of Officers. A chairman of each County shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the chairman of the Senatorial District in which the county is located and in consultation with the local organization of the county.

Sec. 3. The President and Board of Officers of the Texas League of Women Voters shall appoint a chairman for each committee corresponding to the Standing Committees authorized by the National League of Women Voters. These State chairmen of committees shall be members of the National Committees.

ARTICLE VII

GOVERNMENT

Sec. 1. The policy and general outline of work of the Texas League of Women Voters shall be determined annually at the conven-

tion. For the conduct of the affairs of the organization between conventions there shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the Board of Officers, Senatorial District Chairmen, and Chairmen of all Standing Committees.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee shall meet in regular session each January in Austin and during the annual convention, wherever that may be held. Meetings may be called by the President at her discretion or upon written request of any three members of the committee.

Sec. 3. Notice of regular and called meetings shall be sent to all members of the committee. Those members attending the meeting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII

CONVENTION

Sec. 1. An annual meeting shall be held at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall decide, three months' notice being sent to all members. Special meetings shall be held upon call of the Executive Committee, or upon written request of five members for the transaction of business specified in the call.

Sec. 2. The elected and appointed officers of the Association are ex-officio delegates to the Convention and entitled to a vote.

ARTICLE IX

AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the Association by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present, notice of the amendment having been given at the previous annual meeting, or by having been sent to each club at least three months previously, or by the unanimous vote of the delegates at such annual meeting.

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fairs of the organization. Between conventions there shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the elected officers of the State League and the Regional Chairmen; and a State Executive Council consisting of the Executive Committee, Chairmen of all Standing Committees and chairmen of all Congressional Districts.

Sec. 2. The Executive Council shall meet in regular session each January and during the annual convention, wherever that may be held. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the President at her discretion or upon written request of any three members of the committee.

Sec. 3. The Executive Committee and the Legislative Chairman shall determine the order in which Legislative recommendations by the annual conventions shall be considered.

Sec. 4. Notice of regular and called meetings shall be sent to all members of the committee. Those members attending the meeting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII CONVENTION

Sec. 1. An annual meeting shall be held at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall decide, three months' notice being sent to all members. Special meetings shall be held upon call of the Executive Committee, or upon written request of five members for the transaction of business specified in the call.

Sec. 2. The elected and appointed officers of the association are ex-officio delegates to the convention and entitled to a vote.

ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the association by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present, notice of the amendment having been given at the previous annual meeting, or by having been sent to each club at least

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three months previously, or by the unanimous vote of the delegates at such annual meeting.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I OFFICERS

Sec. 1. The regular term of office of all officers shall commence at the adjournment of the annual meeting at which they are elected.

Sec. 2. The duties of officers shall be such as are implied by their respective titles, and such as are specified in these by-laws.

Sec. 3. The president shall preside at meetings of the convention and Executive Committee. She shall be charged with the duty of executing the plans adopted at the annual convention and by the Executive Committee at its sittings. She shall have the power to incur reasonable expenses in the execution of these plans. She shall be obligated to spend the major portion of her time in the headquarters or in the field in close personal touch with the work. For the proper execution of the work of the organization the president shall have the power to appoint such temporary committees as in her judgment may be necessary, and she shall be ex-officio member of all standing and temporary committees. She shall check up and vouch for the accuracy of all accounts presented for payment. She shall be responsible for the safe keeping of the files of her office and turn them over to and secure a receipt for same from her successor.

Sec. 4. The Recording Secretary shall take and preserve accurate minutes of the Annual Conventions and of all Executive meetings.

Sec. 5. The Corresponding Secretary shall be diligent in securing auxiliary and direct members. She shall keep an accurate record of the membership and furnish duplicate lists to the President,

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the Treasurer, and the Recording Secretary.

Sec. 6. The Treasurer shall keep the books and pay all of the accounts of the organization as the bills are presented by the Chairman. She shall collect the pledges and dues and shall be charged with the execution of such financial plans as are adopted by the annual convention. The books of the League shall be closed two weeks prior to the annual convention and audited by an expert auditor and the statement of the auditor presented to the convention by the Treasurer in her annual report.

Sec. 7. The expenses of the elected officers shall be paid to the Executive meetings and the State Convention and they shall attend prepared to make a full and complete report and answer all questions concerning the work of their respective positions.

ARTICLE II STANDING COMMITTEES

Sec. 1. The Texas League of Women Voters authorizes the following eight Standing Committees which correspond to the Standing Committees of the National League:

1. American Citizenship.
2. Protection of Women in Industry.
3. Child Welfare.
4. Efficient Government.
5. Social Hygiene.
6. Unification of Laws Concerning Women.
7. Food Supply and Demand.

Sec. 2. The Texas League of Women Voters authorizes the following three standing committees for the purpose of carrying on more effectively the work of organization: Legislative, Finance, and Political Records.

ARTICLE III AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended at the annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present.

Jane Y. M. Callum
507 W 32nd St.
Austin Tex
CONSTITUTION

AND

BY-LAWS

of

The Texas League

of

Women Voters

as amended at the

1921 Convention, Fort Worth, Texas

Resolution Adopted in San Antonio

October 10, 1919,

Creating the Texas League of Women Voters.

Whereas, The National American Woman Suffrage Association with which the Texas Equal Suffrage Association is affiliated has organized a National League of Women Voters which is designed to be the successor of the National Woman Suffrage Association when the work of getting full suffrage for the women of the United States of America shall be fully completed, and

Whereas, The National plan is for each State, as soon as practicable after ratifying the Federal Amendment, to convert its Suffrage Association into a League of Women Voters to be affiliated with the National League; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Texas Equal Suffrage Association follow and conform with the National plan, and that this Convention shall adopt a Constitution and By-Laws, elect officers, and outline general plans for the Texas League of Women Voters and when this Convention finally adjourns the work of the Texas Equal Suffrage Association is closed and as an organization it is disbanded, but the affiliated organizations are urged to convert themselves into local leagues of Women Voters and continue their activity in furthering better local, state and national government, giving special attention to the selection of good citizens as candidates for office.

**ARTICLE I
NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Texas League of Women Voters, and it shall be affiliated with the National League of Women Voters, upon the payment of such dues as the Constitution of the National League shall require.

ARTICLE II

The object of the Texas League of Women Voters shall be to foster education in citizenship and to support improved legislation. The Texas League of Women Voters urges every woman to join some political party but as an organization it shall be allied with and support no party.

**ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the Texas League of Women Voters shall be three kinds: affiliated, auxiliary, and direct.

Affiliated Membership—All the local leagues of women voters paying dues to the State League of 25 cents per capita may become affiliated and shall be entitled to one delegate at large to the annual convention and in addition one delegate for every twenty-five paid-up members.

Auxiliary Membership—Any organization which shall endorse the aims of the State League and pay annual dues of five dollars is eligible for auxiliary membership and entitled to one delegate to the annual convention.

Direct Membership — Any individual may become a member by signing an application for membership, subscribing to the aims of the Texas League of Women Voters and paying annually the sum of one dollar into the State treasury. Direct members shall be entitled to the privileges of the floor but not to a vote.

ARTICLE IV

Sec. 1. The officers of the Texas League of Women Voters shall be a President, three Vice Presidents, Correspond-

ing Secretary, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer.

Sec. 2. Nominations shall be made by a committee appointed for that purpose, but additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Sec. 3. The term of office of all officers shall be for two years, except that in 1921, the President, First Vice President and Corresponding Secretary shall be elected for one year. Thereafter the President and Recording Secretary shall be elected in the even years; the Second Vice President, Third Vice President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected in the odd years.

Sec. 4. A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to constitute an election.

Sec. 5. In the interim of annual elections, vacancies in office of President shall be filled by the Vice Presidents, succeeding to the office of President in their order. All other vacancies shall be filled by election by the Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE V
ORGANIZATION**

Sec. 1. The Texas League of Women Voters shall be organized into seven Regions of one or more Congressional Districts. The units of the organizations within these Regions shall be the county and the Congressional Districts.

Sec. 2. Each Region shall elect its own officers, the chairman of which shall be confirmed by the State Executive Committee, adopt a constitution conforming with that of the State and National Leagues and direct its own activities under the guidance of the Texas League of Women Voters. If a Region shall fail to elect a chairman, the State President may appoint a temporary Regional Chairman.

Sec. 3. A chairman for each Congressional District shall be appointed by the

President and confirmed by the Executive Committee of the Texas League of Women Voters. A chairman for each county may be appointed by the state president upon the recommendation of the chairman of the Congressional District in which the county is located and in consultation with the local organization of the county.

Sec. 4. The President and the Executive Committee of the Texas League of Women Voters shall appoint a chairman for each committee corresponding to the Standing Committees authorized by the National League of Women Voters. These State chairmen of committees shall be members of the National Committees.

Sec. 5. The President and the Executive Committee in addition to the committees named shall appoint a Committee on Legislation, a Committee on Finances and a Committee on Political Records. The Committee on Legislation shall carry out as far as possible the legislative program adopted at the annual convention and keep in touch with all legislation affecting the work of the League of Women Voters. The Committee on Finances shall be charged with the duty of securing funds sufficient to meet the expense of the State organization authorized in the budget adopted at each annual convention. The Committee on Political Records shall assume the responsibility of issuing the public record of all candidates for State and Legislative offices to all members of the Texas League of Women Voters and to other persons requesting such information. The State President of the Texas League of Women Voters shall be the Chairman of the committee on Political Records.

**ARTICLE VI
GOVERNMENT**

Sec. 1. The policy and general outline of work of the Texas League of Women Voters shall be determined annually at the convention for the conduct of the af-

Constitution and By-Laws of
League of Women Voters.

County

Constitution.
Article I.
Name.

The name of this organization shall be the County League of Women Voters, and it shall be affiliated with the State League of Women Voters, upon the payment of such dues as the Constitution of the State League shall require.

Article II.
The object of the County League of Women Voters shall be to foster education in citizenship and to support improved legislation. It urges every woman to join some political party but as an organization it shall be allied with and support no party.

Article III.
Membership
Every woman who is a resident of county is entitled to membership in the County League of Women Voters. Membership shall be of three kinds; affiliated, auxiliary and direct.

Affiliated Membership - All local leagues of women voters paying dues to the County League of thirty-five cents per capita may become affiliated with the county league and shall be entitled to one delegate to the State convention for every twenty-five paid-up members.

Auxiliary Membership.- Any organization which shall endorse the aims of the State and County league and pay annual dues of two dollars is eligible for auxiliary membership.

Direct Membership- Any individual may become a direct member who subscribes to the aims of the Texas League of Women Voters, and pays annually the sum of fifty cents into the county treasury.

Article IV.
Sec. 1. The officers of the County League of Women Voters shall be a chairman, one Vice Chairman, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary and Treasurer.

Sec. 2. Nominations shall be made by a committee appointed for that purpose, but additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Sec. 3. All officers shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting, and continue in office one year. When there is but one candidate for any office, election may, if so desired be by acclamation. A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to constitute an election.

Sec. 4. In the interim of annual elections, vacancies in office of Chairman shall be filled by the Vice Chairman. All other vacancies shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

Article V.
Organization.
Sec. 1. The County League of Women Voters shall be organized by Commissioners Precincts. The unit of organization within these districts shall be the voting precincts.

Sec. 2. A Chairman of each Commissioners Precinct shall be appointed by the county chairman and the Board of officers. Where there is no League in a voting precinct, a chairman may be appointed by the chairman of the commissioners precinct in which the voting box

is located. All local organizations elect their own officers.

Sec. 3. The Chairman and Board of Officers of the County League of Women Voters shall appoint a chairman for each committee corresponding to the Standing Committees authorized by the State League of Women Voters. These county chairmen of committees shall be members of the State Committees.

Sec. 4. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the elected officers of the County League, chairmen of Commissioners precincts and chairmen of all standing committees.

Sec. 5. The Chairman and the Board of Officers in addition to the committees named shall appoint a Committee on Legislation, a Committee on Finances and a Committee on Political Records. The Committee on Legislation shall carry out as far as possible all requests made by the State Legislative chairmen and keep in touch with all legislation affecting the work of the League of Women Voters. The Committee on Finances shall be charged with the duty of securing funds sufficient to cover the County's share of the State budget adopted at each annual convention. The Committee on Political Records shall furnish the public record of any local candidate for state and Legislative offices to the State chairman, securing from her the records of all state and district candidates for public office.

Article VI.
Government.

§ Sec. 1. The policy and general outline of work of the county League of Women Voters shall be determined by the Executive Committee of the County League of Women Voters.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee shall meet in regular session each month. Meetings may be called by the Chairman at her discretion or upon written request of any three members of the committee.

Sec. 3. Notice of regular and all called meetings shall be sent to all members of the Committee. Those members attending the meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Article VII.
Meetings.

Sec. 1. An annual meeting shall be held at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall decide, three month's notice being sent to all members. Special meetings shall be held upon call of the Executive Committee, or upon written request of five members for the transaction of business specified in the call.

Sec. 2. Every woman who is a member of a local league or of the County League and who has paid the required dues shall be entitled to vote on all questions of business coming before any meeting of the County League. Organizations affiliated with the county League of Women Voters shall be entitled to two votes.

Article VIII.
Amendment.

This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the association by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present, notice of the amendment having been given at the previous annual meeting or by having been sent to each club at least three months previously, or by the unanimous vote of the delegates at such annual meeting.

By-Laws.
Article 1.
Officers.

Sec. 1. The regular term of office of all officers shall commence at the adjournment of the annual meeting at which they are elected.

Sec. 2. The duties of officers shall be such as are implied by their respective titles and such as are specified in three by-laws.

Sec. 3. The chairman shall preside at meetings of the county League and of the Executive Committee. For the proper execution of the work of the organization the chairman shall have the power to appoint such temporary committees as in her judgement may be necessary, and she shall be ex-officio member of all standing and temporary committees. She shall check up and vouch for the accuracy of all accounts presented for payment.

Sec. 4. The Recording Secretary shall take and preserve accurate minutes of the county meeting and of the Executive Board meetings.

Sec. 5. The Corresponding Secretary shall be diligent in securing auxiliary and direct members. She shall keep an accurate record of the membership and furnish duplicate lists of the chairman, the Treasurer, and the Recording Secretary.

Sec. 6. The Treasurer shall keep the books and pay all of the accounts of the organization as the bills are presented by the chairman. She shall collect the pledges and dues and remit to the State Treasurer quarterly all sums of money paid in as dues and pledges to the State Organization.

Article 11.
Standing Committees.

Sec. 1. The County League of Women Voters authorizes the following eight standing committees which correspond to the Standing Committees of the State League:

1. American Citizenship.
2. Protection of Women in Industry.
3. Child Welfare
4. Improvement in Election Laws and Methods.
5. Social Hygiene.
6. Unification of Laws Concerning the Civil status of Women
7. Food Supply and Demand.
8. Research.

Sec. 2. The County League of Women Voters authorize the following three standing committees for the purpose of carrying on more efficiently the work of the organization; Legislative, Finance, and Political Records.

Article 111.
Amendments.

These By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

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Strike out Sec. 1 - 2 and 3 of Art. V and substitute

Sec. 1. The Texas League of Women Voters shall be organized into seven Regions of one or more Congressional Districts. The unit of organization within these Regions shall be the county. *and Congressional Dist.*

Sec. 2. Each Region shall elect its own officers, adopt a constitution conforming with that of the State and National Leagues and direct its own activities under the guidance of the Texas League of Women Voters. If a Region shall fail to elect a chairman, the state President may appoint a temporary Regional Chairman. Chairmen of Congressional Districts shall be appointed by the State President. *Confirmed by Executive Com. in circulation with Chap. Chair.*

Sec. 3. All Regional Chairmen and chairmen of Congressional Districts shall be members of the State Executive Council.

* * * * *

Strike out Sec. 1. Art VI and insert

Sec. 1. The policy and general outline of work of the Texas League of Women Voters shall be determined annually at the convention. For the conduct of the affairs of the organization between conventions there shall be an executive Committee consisting of the elected officers of the State League and the Regional Chairmen; and a State Executive Council consisting of the Executive Committee, Chairmen of all Standing Committees and chairman of all Congressional Districts.

Sec. 2. The Executive Council shall meet in regular session each January at Austin and during the annual convention, wherever that may be held. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the Chairman at her discretion or upon written request of any three members of the committee.

Sec. 3. The Executive Committee and the Legislative Chairmen shall determine the order in which recommendations by the annual convention shall be considered.

General Amendments.

The title "Chairman" and "Vice Chairman" wherever used to designate state officers shall be changed to President and Vice President.

Whenever addition or elimination of sections require all other sections shall be remembered.

"Chairman and Board of Officers" wherever used shall be changed to Executive Committee. Dues shall be twenty-five cents per capita.

CONSTITUTION.

Georgetown League of Women Voters.

Art. 1. The name of this organization shall be the Georgetown League of Women Voters, and it shall be affiliated with the state League of Women Voters upon the payment of such dues as the Constitution of the State League shall require.

Art. 2. The object of the Georgetown League of Women Voters shall be to foster education in citizenship and to support improved legislation. The Georgetown League urges every woman to join some political party but as an organization it shall be allied with and supported no party.

Arti 3. Any individual may become a member by subscribing to the aims of the Texas League of Women Voters and paying the sum of seventy-five cents due annually.

Art. 4. The officers of the League shall be a chairman, one Vice Chairman, a Recording Secretary-Treasurer and a Corresponding Secretary-Reporter, Librarian-Chaplain. Nominations shall be made by a committee appointed for that purpose, but additional nominations may be made from the floor.

All officers shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting and continue in office one year. When there is but one candidate for any office, the election may be by acclamation. A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to constitute an election.

In the interim of annual elections vacancies in office of Chairman shall be filled by the Vice Chairman. All other vacancies shall be filled by election by the executive committee.

Art.5. There shall be an executive Committee composed of the elected officers and chairman of all standing committees. This Committee shall have power to transact all business and shall be charged with the duty of carrying out the policies determined upon by the League.

Art.6. The Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the League by a two-thirds vote of the members present, notice of the amendment having been given at the previous meeting.

----- By - Laws.

1. The regular term of office shall commence at the adjournment of the annual meeting at which officers are elected.

2. The duties of officers shall be such as are implied by their respective titles, and such as are specified in these by-laws.

3. The Chairman shall preside at regular and Executive meetings.

(over)

4. The Recording Secretary-Treasurer shall take and preserve accurate minutes of all regular and executive meetings. She shall collect the dues, keep the books and pay all of the accounts of the organization.

5. The Georgetown League of Women Voters authorizes the appointment of seven standing committees.

American Citizenship.

Protection of Women in Industry.

Child Welfare.

Improvements in Election Laws and Methods.

Social Hygiene.

Unification of Laws Concerning the Civil Status
of women.

Food Supply and Demand.

6. These By-Laws may be amended at a regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

Suggested Constitution for
Divisions.

Regional

Article I.

Name.

This Division of the Texas League of Women Voters shall be known as the Region. Affiliation with the State League shall be by leagues and counties.

Article II.

The purpose of Region of the Texas League of Women Voters is to make possible the accomplishment of the object of the state League; to foster education in citizenship and to support improved legislation.

Article III.

Membership.

The counties comprising the Congressional Districts constitute the territory of the Region, and are entitled to representation at the Regional Meetings. Only those counties having one or more local leagues shall be permitted to vote on matters of business or policy connected with the affairs of the organization. In addition to the County Chairmen one vote shall be allowed each county for every fifty paid up members to the State League of Women Voters as shown by the report of the State Treasurer for the preceding year.

Article IV.

Sec. 1. The officers of Region of the Texas League of Women Voters shall be a chairman, one Vice Chairman, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary.

Sec. 2. Nominations shall be made by a committee appointed for that purpose, but additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Sec. 3. All officers shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting, and continue in office one year. When there is but one candidate for any office, election may, if so desired, be by acclamation. A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to constitute an election.

Sec. 4. In the interim of annual elections, vacancies in office of Chairman shall be filled by the Vice Chairman. All other vacancies shall be filled by the Executive Council.

Article V.

Organization.

Sec. 1. The Region of the Texas League of Women Voters shall be organized by counties. These counties shall be grouped according to Congressional Districts, with a Congressional District Chairman appointed by the State President who shall be a member of the Executive Council of the State League of Women Voters and of that of the Region. She shall have the power to organize all the counties in her district, and together with the State President, shall appoint acting chairman for unorganized counties.

Sec. 2. The Chairman and Board of Officers of the Region of the Texas League of Women Voters shall appoint a chairman for each Committee corresponding to the Standing Committees authorized by the State League. These chairmen of committees shall be members of the corresponding State Committees.

Sec. 3. The Executive Council shall be composed of the elected officers of the Region, chairmen of Congressional Districts comprising the Region and Regional chairmen of standing committees.

Sec. 4. The Chairmen and the Board of Officers of the Region in addition to the committees named shall appoint a Committee on Legislation, a Committee on Finances and a Committee on Political Records. The Committee on Legislation shall carry out as far as possible all requests made by the State Legislative chairmen and keep in touch with all legislation affecting the work of the League of Women Voters. The committee on Finances shall be charged with the duty of securing funds sufficient to cover the Region's share of the State budget adopted at each annual convention. The Commit-

tee on Political Records shall furnish the public record of local candidates for state and national offices to the State Chairman, securing from her the records of all state and district candidates for public office.

Article VI.
Government.

Sec. 1. The policy and general outline of work of the Region of the Texas League of Women Voters shall be determined by the annual convention of the State League.

Sec. 2. The Executive Council shall meet in regular session immediately after the State Convention and during the annual Regional meeting.

Sec. 3. Notice of regular and called meetings shall be sent to all members of the Committee. Those members attending the meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Sec. 4. An Annual meeting shall be held at such time and place as the Executive Council at its regular meeting shall decide, three month's notice being sent to all members. Special meetings shall be held upon call of the Executive Council, or upon written request of five members for the transaction of business specified in the call.

Article VII.
Amendment.

This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the association by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present, notice of the amendment having been given at the previous annual meeting or by having been sent to each club at least three months previously, or by the unanimous vote of the delegates at such meetings.

By-Laws.

Article I.
Officers.

Sec. 1. The regular term of office of all officers shall commence at the adjournment of the annual meeting at which they are elected.

Sec. 2. The duties of officers shall be such as are implied by their respective titles and such as are specified in these by-laws.

Sec. 3. For the proper execution of the work of the organization the chairman shall have the power to appoint such temporary committees as in her judgement may be necessary, and she shall be ex-officio member of all standing and temporary committees. She shall check up and vouch for the accuracy of all accounts presented for payment.

Sec. 4. The Corresponding Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the membership and furnish duplicate lists to the Chairman, the Recording Secretary and the Congressional Chairmen of her Region.

Article II.
Standing Committees.

Sec. 1. The Region of the Texas League of Women Voters authorizes the following eight standing committees which correspond to the Standing Committees of the State League.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. American Citizenship. | 6. Unification of Laws Concerning the Civil Status of women |
| 2. Protection of Women in Industry. | 7. Food Supply and Demand. |
| 3. Child Welfare. | 8. Finances. |
| 4. Improvement of Election Laws and Methods. | 9. Political Records. |
| 5. Social Hygiene | 10. Legislative. |

Article III.
Amendments.

These By-laws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

Provisions of Minimum Wage Bill for Texas.

What is the Industrial Welfare Commission?

At the request of Governor Neff and in the interest of economy, the Industrial Welfare Commission of Texas as a separate body of officials was abolished by the 37th Legislature and since any bill calling for a separate Commission would probably be vetoed by the Governor because of expense, should it pass the Legislature, the Minimum Wage Bill provides that the operation of the law shall be under the Industrial Accident Board with power to employ investigators, stenographers and other clerical help as the work demands. When the Industrial Accident Board functions in such duties required by the Minimum Wage law it shall be known as the Industrial Welfare Commission.

How is the Minimum Wage determined?

The Industrial Welfare Commission shall hold hearings throughout the State of employers and employees, ascertaining the hours of work, the conditions of labor and wages paid in industries and occupations. Every person, firm or corporation employing women shall furnish the Commission under oath all information requested and shall allow investigation of premises or places of labor by Commission whenever deemed necessary. The Commission may specify times and places for public hearings where interested persons shall appear and give testimony. Due publication of such hearings shall be made in at least one county paper in which the hearing is held.

Who fixes the Wage?

After investigations and hearings the Industrial Welfare Commission shall fix the wage. The bill does not specify the amount.

Shall it be the same wage for all parts of the State?

The bill allows the Commission to district the state according to working conditions and the cost of living within the various sections of the state and to fix a minimum wage for these districts. It provides further that these districts may be subdivided according to population and a different Minimum Wage fixed for each class where conditions warrant.

Do learners or apprentices and minors receive the same wage as adults?

Learners and apprentices may secure permits from the Commission to work for less than the Minimum Wage for the district, the permits to be issued for one or more periods of six months such periods to be regulated by the Commission. The number of learners or apprentices in any trade or industry shall be regulated by the Commission. A minor is defined as a person of either sex under fifteen years of age.

Do aged or defectives receive the same wage as expert adults?

The Committee may issue permits to any person who, by reason of age or mental or physical defects cannot attain average efficiency to work for less than the Minimum Wage, provided that the whole number of such defectives shall not at any time exceed ten per cent of the whole number employed where there are ten or more persons subject to the act. The Committee shall fix a special wage for these defectives.

General features
of the bill.

The standard of living shall be the same throughout the state; the girl living at home shall receive the same wage as the girl away from home; provision is made for refixing the minimum wage as conditions change, either lowering or raising the minimum; Any industry which feels that the Minimum Wage fixed is unfair, shall have a reconsideration of the Commission's findings protection is furnished the employee who testifies at a hearing; also the employee is allowed to recover any wages due under the law and not paid.

Because there is no protection for working women under the law in Texas the bill declares any emergency which requires two-thirds vote of both Houses for passage. It becomes immediately operative so that investigations may commence as soon as possible after the Governor signs the bill.

Further detailed information will be given upon request.

Outstanding Amendments to the Minimum Wage Bill.

There were five amendments made to the Minimum Wage Bill as outlined any one of which was sufficient either to make it a farce or to kill it out right.

Amendments.

"All telephone exchanges, mercantile establishments of all classes and laundries in cities, towns and villages whose population was 4,950 or less at the last federal census are hereby exempt from the provisions of this act".

Striking out latter part of section 3 which provides that the Commission have free access to places of employment for making investigations relating to working conditions and wages paid females and minors and to keep a register of names, ages and employees".

An amendment which permits a court upon appeal to set aside the determination, order or wage fixed by the Commission, and shall enter such orders, judgements and decrees as the court shall find

Objections.

Factories, packing plants, laundries, etc. located without the city limits of large cities regardless of the number of employees, would be exempt. Industries now located in cities over this size would be operating under a law that exempted their competitors of the same size in the smaller communities and would be unfair and discriminatory. The provisions of zoning would take care of smaller towns. Women in towns of 4,950 are entitled to a bare living wage as well as women in larger towns.

The effect of striking out this provision is to leave the commission without means of securing authentic information in enforcing a minimum wage decree. When testimony of employer and employee disagree.

The bill provides that upon appeal the court may recommit the controversy and remand the record in the case to the Commission for further proceedings. The amendment destroys the power of the Commission empowering

WHAT IS A MINIMUM WAGE?

It is a bare living, just the necessary amount to clothe and feed one person and provide shelter. No person will admit that he is willing that anyone in our state should work for less than this. A Minimum Wage law merely requires that all employers of female labor shall pay at least this amount. Wherever it is not done, society pays in some manner. Through the United Charities the public contributes indirectly to the profits of large industries which increase their incomes by cutting their pay rolls. An industry which cannot pay a living wage is a liability to the community in which it does business and should not be allowed to exist.

If an industry is paying a living wage to its employees, it will not be opposed to any law which requires others to do the same. An industry which opposes the enactment of a law which requires a living wage to be paid its employees on the grounds that such a wage would ruin it, should close its doors because it is a loss to the community to have it operate. No business will say that it opposes a bare living wage because it does not believe that its employees should be paid enough to live on decently.

HISTORY OF MINIMUM WAGE IN TEXAS.

The 36th Legislature passed a Minimum Wage law which was held inoperative because it did not allow for the difference in the cost of living between large cities, and small towns, the oil fields and rural sections. This being the case, it was held in suspension until such a time as a workable law might be enacted allowing for zoning the state. One class of employers which would be most keenly affected with resultant inconvenience to the public was the rural telephone exchange. Since this was the main issue brought up it is well to go into this point minutely.

There are hundreds of little telephone exchanges serving large rural communities through party line service and operated by one or two women who live in the house where the switchboard is located. These women frequently do their housework and sewing, keep a cow and make a garden and carry on all the activities of the home at the same time attending to the duties of the telephone. For this they are paid a sum of money which is practically clear gain. Their house rent is free, and often fuel, lights and water. The rural telephone companies could not charge the farmer-subscribers enough to enable the payment of this blanket wage of twelve dollars and a half a week for an eight hour day, so that inevitably the law would have forced the closing of these exchanges, depriving hundreds of families of any quick communication with the outside world.

It was held that since these operators were subject to calls during the night because they lived in the house they were therefore on duty twenty-four hours and under the operation of the law must receive pay for three shifts of work a day or three times twelve and a half dollars a week. This was obviously unfair to the employer, employee and the public. But the rural Telephone Exchange is in a class to itself and a Minimum Wage law which would care for this feature should not have found great opposition in being enacted.

The Telephone people wrote and wired and visited their representatives pledging them to care for the farmers and their families in this matter.

But in order to care for the Rural telephones it is not necessary to exclude from the operation of a Minimum Wage every industry of all kinds in towns of five thousand or less, if a law is en-

acted which will allow the Commission to set a bare living wage for women and minors according to the cost of living and of population.

The Texas Federation of Women's Clubs, the Congress of Mothers and the Texas League of Women Voters at their conventions last fall passed resolutions which pledged their members to work for the passage of a workable Minimum Wage Law for women by the 37th Legislature. The presidents and legislative chairmen of these three organizations met in Austin at the opening of the regular session and worked out a bill which cared for all the unworkable features of the law that was then on the statutes.

This bill, the outstanding features of which are here given failed because the women back home were not evincing great interest in its passage while those who were opposing the measure were exceedingly active in sending in letters and telegrams and even personal representatives calling for the wiping out of all legislation for the protection of the working women of our state. As a result of their work Texas today has no Minimum Wage Law.

Facts on Minimum Wage in Other States.

Thirteen States- Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, and the District of Columbia have a Minimum Wage Law. Texas appeared in this list until April 1st 1921.

The Supreme Court of the United States has declared such legislation constitutional, upholding the decision of the Supreme Court of Oregon. Other Supreme Courts upholding the Constitutionality of this kind of legislation are those of Minnesota, Washington and Massachusetts.

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should have been originally made by the Commission".

An amendment which empowers the County Judge instead of the Welfare Commission to issue permits to aged and deficient persons for periods of twelve months with renewals at the option of the county Judge. The number to be issued to employees of any one firm or industry to be unlimited.

An Amendment which "in all cases where any female or minor employe does not live at home or with his or her relatives," allows the Commission upon petition to fix another minimum Wage which may be lowered or raised according to the actual cost of living.

the courts to set aside the findings. This amendment alone makes a straw dummy of the Minimum Wage Law.

Any knowledge of the effectiveness of childlabor laws and the Mother's Pension Law, as administered by county judges makes the size of this loop hole obvious. With amendment # 3 and this one, an industry could employ 100 % of its number as deficients without danger of being detected. This amendment was disastrous.

The rank injustice of this amendment is its worse feature. The basis of a minimum wage is that of the cost of living of a girl living at home. Any other wage can be secured only upon petition to the Commission.

Other amendments some quite important others only of minor effect were made to the bill. These five were fatal and consequently are here innumarated. In practically all instances, they were introduced by enemies to any Minimum Wage Law and their passage defeated the purpose of the bill.

The vote of any legislator or senator on these amendments ar by whom they were introduced will be given upon request.

WORK OF CHAIRMEN ON MINIMUM WAGE.

1. Take the Minimum Wage question before every woman's organization, church as well as others, and discuss in detail the measure. Secure resolutions endorsing the work and calling upon your local Representative to support the bill and on Governor Neff to submit it.
2. Appoint a committee of three or more women to call on or write your representative and secure his pledge to support the bill during the called session of the 37th Legislature.
3. Write Governor Neff as well as sending resolutions petitioning him to submit to the coming session of the Legislature the Minimum Wage question. Remember it is a platform demand of the Democratic party that a workable and adequate Minimum Wage Law be passed and as representatives of the party both the Governor and the Legislature are bound by the pledges of this platform.
4. Send in to me a report on the result of your work giving in detail the position taken by your legislator.

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