THE OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND

of the League of Women Voters

ANNUAL REPORT 1969-70

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[redacted]

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Those who are involved in economic development assistance have called 1970 "the Year of Appraisal" because two major reviews have been made: one by the Pearson Commission and one by the Peterson Task Force.

Although the demand for increased assistance in terms of dollars is the major thrust of these reviews, it is of interest to the Overseas Education Fund that recurring emphasis is placed, in the recommendations of both groups, on citizen participation and social development. The Pearson Commission report states that

> Stable development would seem to require a more equitable distribution of wealth and a greater participation in political and economic life than has so far been characteristic of many of the developing countries. . .

The Peterson Task Force recommended social development "designed to assure popular participation through. . . civic associations and through community development programs."

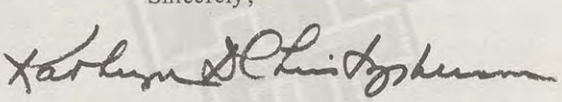
The evolution of OEF's training affirms these recommendations. The emphasis on how to apply organizational techniques to local, even neighborhood, situations has increased over the years. The challenge this emphasis poses to the training organization is to require a revaluation of curricula and to adapt, where necessary, to the changing terrain in which such practical applications must occur. An independent appraisal and a grant for an evaluation design mean that this year, for the first time, the Overseas Education Fund can begin to systematize the evaluation of what we have done as a basis for future program development.

It is clear that the value of OEF's program lies in the individual's contribution to his community. OEF graduates have promoted and organized local volunteer efforts for a variety of activities: to clean city streets and markets; to work as community developers in indigent neighborhoods; to take a community literacy census; to persuade the municipal government to install city lights; to establish a village dispensary; to persuade national legislators to introduce and pass a bill for civic education in the public school system; to stimulate public awareness of the need for public health precautions. These are a few of many volunteer efforts organized without direct OEF assistance. Those who initiated them are continuing to find other ways to improve their community life.

The OEF has enabled individuals from other countries to examine the relationship between their attitudes and their voluntary activities, and to adopt those attitudes which they can translate into visible community programs. Emphasis on "back home application," or the adaptation of democratic organizational techniques and human relations training to immediate local problems, is a unifying theme of OEF's leadership training. It is designed to give individuals the confidence needed to work with others from different backgrounds with different interests in life. This confidence is the bridge from the needs felt by emerging leaders to creative involvement in community development.

Some years ago Eugene Black, then President of the World Bank, referred to the "balance of hope"—hope for a better tomorrow. There are surely no exclusive, causative agents in maintaining this precarious balance. There is also no doubt that this balance requires a continually expanding reservoir of leaders. To be engaged in meeting this need is a constant challenge to those of us responsible for the work of the Overseas Education Fund.

Sincerely,



Mrs. William M. Christopherson
President

This year the Overseas Education Fund continued its efforts, through its field representatives, consultants, directors and trustees, to promote effective citizen participation in community affairs in Latin America. An independent assessment of OEF's program in Latin America and a grant for an evaluation design have enabled this training organization to examine critically the function of program evaluations as a basis for future organizational development. Two Spanish-language booklets—one on voters' service and one on how to raise funds—were published. Under the leadership of a new president the OEF continued exploration of an Asian program, with emphasis on Indonesia and Malaysia, to service requests for technical assistance received from voluntary groups in those countries.

Mrs. William Christopherson assumed the presidency of OEF in January, 1970.

OVERSEAS PROGRAMS

CENTRAL AMERICA

Some examples of the activities of civic organizations in Central America are:

COSTA RICA—The *Organización de Ciudadanas Costarricenses* held a national seminar on "The Citizen: His Politico-Social Function." It also sponsored a seminar on human relations for volunteers.

EL SALVADOR—The *Organización de Ciudadanas Salvadoreñas* formed a chapter in Santa Ana, where volunteers have been working on a family settlement project.

GUATEMALA—A program of voter education was carried out by the *Alianza Cívica de Asociaciones Femeninas* and the *Organización Guatemalteca de Ciudadanas*. It was directed to women active in all political parties and included training in how to administer a questionnaire to presidential candidates.

HONDURAS—In conjunction with its market clean-up campaign the *Organización Hondureña de Ciudadanas* initiated volunteer efforts to organize a cooperative for low-interest loans to market vendors.

NICARAGUA—As a result of a seminar on "Problems of Nicaraguan Childhood and their Possible Solutions" sponsored by the *Organización Cívica Nicaragüense de Ciudadanas*, a children's welfare committee was set up.

PANAMA—The *Unión de Ciudadanas Panameñas* prepared five publications: Our Country, Human Rights, The State and Its Institutions, Citizen Responsibilities, and Democracy.

Using training given them last year by OEF, organizations in all of these countries raised local funds to send delegates to a ten-day Central American workshop on "The Coordination of Volunteer Associations as a Dynamic Force for Civico-Social Action."

Sra. Lupe de Quadra, Mrs. Haskell Rosenblum, and Dra. Graciela Quan at the sixth Central American Workshop.

The workshop, the sixth in a series, was co-sponsored by OEF and the *Organización Cívica Nicaragüense de Ciudadanas* and took place near Managua in June. Human relations training and exercises in how to apply the principles of coordinating voluntary groups to local situations served to demonstrate to the delegates how they could share what they had learned with others who did not attend the workshop.

Collectively these organizations are broadening the scope of their national programs, either by extending their work to the interior or by directing their programs to low-income, urban residents. OEF's two Central American field representatives continued to counsel them, with increasing emphasis on long-range program planning.

Fifteen women came from Central America to OEF training programs in the United States. Of these, nine attended the OEF Institute and six attended the Multinational Seminar. Mexico sent two participants to the U.S. based Multinational Seminar.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

In addition to a third national seminar for provincial governors held in October, OEF's Field Representative organized a series of regional training conferences throughout the year for Dominican OEF-trained volunteers. This series was designed to give opportunities for exchanges of actual experiences, including problem-solving of volunteer projects already underway.

Sewing class in El Seibo, Dominican Republic, organized by OEF-trained volunteers.

Other purposes of the series were to impart better techniques skills, such as group discussion leading; to relate community activities to Dominican progress; to explore avenues of cooperation between provinces; to give support to newly formed organizations; and to re-examine the responsibility of the citizen in the governmental process.

Three Dominican volunteers attended as participants the Central American workshop in Managua.

Three leaders from the Dominican Republic attended OEF programs in the United States. Of these, two attended the OEF Institute and one attended the Multinational Seminar.

SOUTH AMERICA

Three OEF volunteers and five staff members travelled in eight South American countries during the past year.

In Argentina the OEF co-sponsored with the Universidad Nacional de Cuyo a two-week regional training program or *curso* on "Community Participation." Twenty-six women from Argentina, Chile, and Paraguay, whose interests included teaching, social work, political science, law, and organization of cooperatives, participated. Under a grant from the Ford Foundation OEF's representative gave fund-raising training to groups in six Argentine cities prior to the *curso*, which enabled the Argentine participants to raise their travel and per diem expenses from in-country sources.

An OEF Institute graduate in Bolivia receives a medal of merit from the Mayor of Santa Cruz.

Twenty-four Bolivian women participated in a *curso* on "Civic-Social Education" sponsored by the *Confederación Nacional de Instituciones Femeninas*, Bolivian OEF graduates, and OEF. The Argentine and Bolivian *cursos* were designed to:

- Provide advanced leadership training for women with experience in community development or civic education programs
- Encourage the formation of nuclei of informed, active women living outside the capital cities
- Promote more effective use by South American women of civic action resources in their communities.

The *cursos* had components on human relations and organizational techniques. Presentations by experts on topics such as educational development were also included.

In Colombia the *Unión de Ciudadanas de Colombia* requested and received OEF assistance in restructuring its organization. OEF field representatives and an OEF Trustee gave short courses to UCC's membership in community development and methods of financing voluntary organizations.

The *Agencia Coordinadora del Voluntariado* requested OEF assistance for its Inter-American Seminar for Leaders of Voluntary Associations held in August. The seminar included leaders from six of the Colombian departments, 13 Latin American countries and the United States.

At the request of the *Secretariado General del Servicio Voluntario* in Ecuador, OEF provided technical assistance at the first local seminar in Quito on "The Role of the Volunteer." Twenty-seven volunteers from 18 organizations attended the seminar. In February, an OEF consultant attended the Inter-American Commission of Women's fifth leadership training course in Quito, where she led discussions of concepts of civic development.

Inauguration of the First Seminar of Volunteers, Quito, Ecuador.

Other South American countries visited by OEF Representatives this year were Chile, Paraguay, Peru, and Venezuela. Fifteen women came from South America to OEF training programs in the United States. Of these, ten attended the OEF Institute and five attended the Multinational Seminar.

ASIA

1969/70 was a year of fact-finding and exploration prior to the OEF's expansion into Southeast Asia. A vice-president attended the Eleventh Congress of PERWARI, a national civic organization of Indonesian women, where she addressed the delegates on "Women and Civic Education." During the same trip she discussed fund-raising and budgeting with women's groups in Malaysia and program development with the newly formed League of Women Voters of Korea. Her trip included stops in eight other Asian countries. In June the Ambassador to the United States from Indonesia, Soedjatmoko, addressed a group of corporate executives in New York at a

Leaders of the League of Women Voters of Korea celebrate their organization's first anniversary.

The Ambassador from Indonesia, Soedjatmoko, addressed businessmen at an OEF luncheon.

kick-off luncheon for OEF's leadership training program for Indonesian and Malaysian women.

U.S. BASED PROGRAMS

OEF INSTITUTE

The OEF Institute held at Boston University from September 1 through December 20, 1969, is a comprehensive training program conducted in Spanish for Latin American women who have demonstrated leadership potential. The goal of the Institute is to introduce the participants to the variety of organizational structures and functions of voluntary citizen activities in the United States. The curriculum includes classroom study of the development process—economic, social, and political—and field observation of voluntary and professional community agencies, primarily in the Boston area. Twenty-one women sponsored by eleven AID missions in Latin America participated in Institute 1969.

OEF Institute commencement, Blair House.

The Institute is a participatory learning experience. It substitutes small group discussions for the traditional lecture method. Participatory learning was strengthened in Institute 1969 by individual and team research projects on topics related to problems in the individual country of the researcher. Throughout the entire curriculum there was greater focus than before on the application in Latin America of learned skills. An extra-curricular innovation was the tutoring program in conversational English provided by volunteers from the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts and Boston University.

MULTINATIONAL SEMINAR

"The Role of the Citizen in Civic Development" was the theme of the OEF's Tenth Multinational Seminar based in Washington. This annual program is funded by the Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State. The fourteen Latin American women who participated in the 1969 Seminar represented 14 countries, and included a League member from Iowa as the United States participant.

The first two weeks of the five-week Seminar concentrated on classroom training in group techniques and discussion about the democratic concepts behind various community projects. The travel program which followed gave participants the opportunity to see in operation the principles they had learned by observing civic and voluntary programs in eight U.S. cities.

The Mayor of Uyuni, Bolivia, presents an Indian dress to Mrs. Nixon as Mrs. Joyce Hoyt, OEF staff, looks on.

HEADQUARTERS BRIEFING SERVICE

OEF volunteers using four languages briefed 51 leaders from 18 countries during the past year. These visitors came from Europe, Africa, Asia, the Near East, and Latin America. They included a woman member of Afghanistan's Parliament, the only women member of the Belgian Ministry of French Culture, an Iraqi journalist, a Yugoslav professor of political science, a Chilean juvenile court judge, a girls' school director in Dahomey, and a lawyer from Kenya. The briefings were tailored as much as possible to the professional and volunteer interests of the foreign guests, but all focused on what U.S. women—including League members—have done and are continuing to do in civic affairs on a voluntary basis. OEF's briefing service is available at the Washington Headquarters to any foreign visitor requesting it.

PUBLICATIONS

This year, in response to a need expressed by groups in Latin American countries where elections were being held, the Overseas Education Fund published *Servicios al Electorado*, a Spanish-language booklet which describes techniques for reaching voters and supplying them with non-partisan information about candidates and issues. Like many OEF publications, this voters' service manual contains organizational case studies.

A second "how-to" manual, *La Campaña Directa para la Recaudación de Fondos en una Organización Voluntaria* (Guide for a Fund-Raising Campaign in a Voluntary Organization) draws on the experience of an OEF representative who trained finance chairmen and members of voluntary groups in Latin America under a Ford Foundation grant. The booklet suggests ways to plan and carry out a fund-raising drive, using some of the methods of the League of Women Voters.

OEF's quarterly Spanish-language newsletter, *Intercambio*, has initiated a new series of articles entitled "Profile of an OEF Institute Graduate." This series contains accounts of individual volunteer projects and provides readers with an opportunity to learn by sharing the experiences of others who received similar training from OEF. In addition to OEF graduates, *Intercambio* readers include community leaders and professionals in a variety of fields.

FUTURE PLANS

I. LATIN AMERICAN CONFERENCE SERIES

OEF plans to sponsor a series of national conferences in seven South American countries and in Central America and the Dominican Republic for graduates of eight OEF Institutes, ten Multinational Seminars, and four *cursos*. The primary purpose of the five-day conferences is to bring OEF graduates together in order to reinforce group skills and training in organizational techniques. These Latin American leaders have already proposed topics in the social development field for special study. The conference series will be administered by three OEF staff/volunteer teams.

II. LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR INDONESIAN AND MALAYSIAN WOMEN

The OEF is expanding its service into Southest Asia. The immediate goal of this new program is to strengthen the leadership training activities of selected voluntary organizations in Indonesia and Malaysia by supplying the present leaders of those groups with the educational services which they have requested. The long-range goal is to train able young women from all cultural and religious backgrounds for civic leadership.

III. RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

The Fund received a grant from the Tinker Foundation for study of the facilitating and impeding factors leading to the assumption of a civic role by women in Latin America. The focus of this evaluation design will be on the relationship of OEF's selection, training, field consultation, and follow-up to the development of civic organizations and leadership at the community level.

Over the next three years the OEF plans to administer evaluation questionnaires periodically to its graduates; to analyze the results and develop training recommendations as indicated; to complete profiles of women's civic role in countries where OEF programs are in process; to routinize organizational procedures for supplying current bibliographic sources on Latin American women to OEF Board and staff; to refine short-range and long-range indicators of OEF program successes which reflect the varieties of countries and personal situations in which OEF graduates work and live.

IV. OEF INSTITUTE

The OEF Institute, established in 1963, is designed to train promising young women from Latin America to teach and foster the skills, understanding and techniques of citizen participation in voluntary associations. The only educational offering of its kind, the Institute's curriculum is divided into 16 weekly units which focus on a specific aspect of the individual in relation to the family, the community, the voluntary association, and the larger community–national, regional and world. Group dynamics, organizational techniques, and field visits to social welfare and civic agencies in the Boston area are integral components of the program.

THE OVERSEAS EDUCATIONAL FUND
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
July 1, 1969–June 30, 1970

INCOME

Designated Fund Balance from Prior Year	$ 22,891
Designated Contributions and Grants	68,587
Less: Designated Income Deferred to Future Period	(37,719)
Undesignated Contributions and Grants	45,032
Reimbursements for Programs and Services	278,446
Publications (gross)	3,736
Fiftieth Anniversary Campaign of LWVUS	60,000
Interest and Dividends	2,500
	$443,473

EXPENSE*

Latin American Program Headquarters Services	$ 91,740
South American Field Program	47,636
Central American Field Program	36,319
Dominican Republic Program	21,233
OEF Institute, Boston University	82,847
OEF Institute, South America	14,753
Multinational Seminar, Washington, D.C.	27,777
Ford Project	36,800
Headquarters Services Publications & Briefings	21,182
Organizational Development	34,044
Central American Workshop	5,721
Argentine *curso*	15,764
Evaluation Design	3,262
	$439,078

*Includes distribution by audit of indirect costs ($128,088) of administration, office overhead, and program coordination.

Audit by Councilor, Buchanan & Mitchell

SOURCES OF SUPPORT
July 1, 1969–June 30, 1970

*indicates paid or pledged to OEF through the 50th Anniversary Campaign of the League of Women Voters

Corporations & Corporate Foundations

*Boise Cascade
*Business International
*Corn Products International
*Hollingsworth and Bose
Humble Charitable Trust
*International Business Machines
*Intron
*Johanson Corporation
*J. W. Thompson
*Levi Strauss
*Pan American World Airways
Sears-Roebuck
*Seattle Stevedore
Singer Sewing Machines
C. Tennant, Sons and Co.
*Textron
*Washington Post

Foundations

Compton Trust
*Fleischmann Foundation
Ford Foundation
Ivy Fund
Lasbury Foundation
*McAshan Educational and Charitable Trust
*Menkin Foundation
Charles E. Merrill Trust
Rockefeller Brothers Fund
*Stetten Foundation
*Tillarid Foundation
Tinker Foundation
Blanche and Frank Wolf Foundation
Rose Hirsch Wolf Fund

Individuals and Memorial Gifts

143 gifts received
$33,925.79

Program Contracts

Agency for International Development
Bureau for Latin America
U.S./AID Mission of the Dominican Republic
Department of State
Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs

U.S./AID Missions in

Argentina
Bolivia
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Dominican Republic
El Salvador
Guatemala
Honduras
Nicaragua
Panama

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Director of Latin American Programs

Overseas Education Fund
of the League of Women Voters

OEF NEWS

March, 1969

TO THE GRADUATES OF OEF INSTITUTE VI
(Excerpts from a talk by
Congressman F. Bradford Morse)
At The White House Ceremony, December 19, 1968

"It is a great honor for me to congratulate you today on what I know has been a rigorous, but challenging program....I have always thought that the kind of activities conducted by the Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women Voters represents one of the most important investments we can make in development...

Today is a day for satisfaction and fulfillment for you all. Your successful completion of this Institute reflects, I know, a sacrifice on your part. You left family and career to spend four months strengthening your capacity and that of your community for self-sufficiency and self-fulfillment. You can be proud of what you have achieved.

But the true sense of pride and achievement will be tested by your activities when you return home. Hopefully what you have learned here and witnessed in observing groups and activities, both successful and unsuccessful, will not only increase your ability to get things done, but will strengthen your resolve to involve more and more of our friends in the home Hemisphere in their own progress and development...

It is often said in jest that whenever three North Americans get together they automatically form a committee. That is probably an exaggeration, but there is no doubt that without the persistent, and often courageous, efforts by citizens groups, our society would be vastly weaker. Our consumer products would not be tested for safety and health, women would not be able to vote, our highways would be forever studded with ugly bill boards, our hospitals, clinics and schools would be of lesser quality.

Whether the goal is national beautification, or the installation of street lights in a Latin American barrio, the spirit of cooperation that gets the job done is the very same. This is a spirit you obviously share and one that I hope you will instill in those with whom you work in your home countries.

One of the principal barriers to progress, as you all know, is the sense of hopelessness -- a feeling that nothing will ever be any different or any better. Once that barrier is overcome even with the slightest success, each subsequent goal will seem easier to achieve, the number of individuals involved will be greater and your community will be strong and united as you work together for development.

We have a long way to go here in the United States as I'm sure you have observed. Our problems differ in kind, but not in perplexity. Learning from each other as you -- and we -- have done over these past four months, our Hemisphere will achieve the steady progress for all our citizens that is, after all, the principal objective of our Alliance for Progress."

The seminar was very well received and resulted in many constructive suggestions which will be incorporated into its format. At its conclusion, Mrs. Dean Rusk, who attended, commented that OEF had taken a positive step toward making the participants more interested and more interesting visiting citizens.

On February 6, another successful seminar was held, attracting 18 participants representing 14 different groups. The day's program was devoted to the techniques involved in volunteer service abroad.

MULTI-NATIONAL SEMINAR OFFERED FOR NINTH TIME

"New insights...new attitudes...fresh motivation" -- this, according to the participants is what they would be taking back to their homelands from OEF's Ninth Multi-National Leadership Training Seminar for Latin American women civic leaders, held in October and November.

The Seminar is one of the ways in which OEF is giving technical assistance in the field of community development through leadership training as part of its Latin American program. The 1968 Seminar consisted of a 37-day integrated study-travel program for 14 women from six Central and five South American countries who attended on Leader Grants from the Department of State.

Widely divergent backgrounds were represented within the group -- three from the field of education, a state senator, a municipal counselor, a lawyer, an economist, an accountant, a professor of social work, two social workers, a nursing instructor and a public relations specialist.

The Seminar began in Washington where the processes that lead to understanding of community needs were explored. Methods of investigation and problem solving were studied and opportunities for the participants to practice leadership techniques were utilized. This two week period also included lectures by professional and volunteer specialists from many fields; among the distinguished speakers were Sterling Tucker of the National Urban League, Frank Mankiewicz, columnist and former Press Secretary to Senator Robert Kennedy, and national officers of the League of Women Voters.

Following the Washington-based program, the group began three weeks of travel to selected towns and cities in the East to see in action the work that is being carried on by governmental, private and voluntary organizations. Arrangements and home hospitality provided by Leagues in Chapel Hill, New Haven, Minneapolis, Bloomington, and New York, programmed sight-seeing, and a visit to the United Nations added to the group's experience.

At the conclusion of the travel program, each participant agreed that she had gained a new personal awareness of the individual and group roles related to community understanding and growth. En route to their homes, the group stopped in Puerto Rico for more field visits and League-arranged program.

Here is how one participant summarized her experience: "Now that I have seen the inter-relationship among the social, economic and political factors that contribute to community development, I can understand why these areas must move forward together. And I now realize the importance of respecting community opinions and for consulting community wishes in developing programs and projects. I'm taking back a new approach to the people with whom I work."

OEF'S SIXTH INSTITUTE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLRETED

"Helping young Latin American women to discover that they themselves are their greatest potential resource for taking action in the community is one of the main objectives of the Institute program," stated Joyce Bowden, former member of the Peace Corps and now assistant director of training for OEF.

Focusing on this objective, the 1968 Institute, sponsored by OEF in cooperation with Metrocenter of Boston University, was an intensive four-month course in leadership training. The related group living, study and working experiences of the Institute program were shared by 18 women from ten Latin American countries. The participants were selected in cooperation with U.S. AID missions in these countries on the basis of their potential and their present contribution to their organizations and communities. Their attendance was made possible by AID missions fellowships.

The Institute program combined classroom work - social and economic studies, organizational practices and group dynamics - with actual involvement in community programs. In order to become familiar with the goals, methods and everyday problems that volunteer organizations in the United States encounter, each participant selected an agency that adopted her as a "willing volunteer" for a two week period. These placements were made throughout the state of Massachusetts with the generous assistance and hospitality of many local Leagues of Women Voters. This firsthand involvement in community work was one of the highlights of the Institute program, according to Mrs. Mildred G. Mersereau, Institute Director.

At the completion of their training, the young women traveled to Washington for a graduation ceremony at the White House, at which Mrs. Dean Rusk was hostess, before departing for their home countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru. Congressman F. Bradford Morse reminded the homeward-bound graduates, "You are the women-doers who will be a powerful force for change throughout the Hemisphere."

CIVIC PROGRAM GOES FORWARD IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

A little over a year ago, OEF launched a series of civic seminars in the Dominican Republic, at the invitation of that government's Office of Community Development, to encourage the strengthening of democratic grass-roots organizations and citizen participation in national development. The first involved the Women Governors and leading volunteers from the 26 Provinces. A distinguished observer from Tufts University commented, "I was very much impressed by the grass-roots work and the exciting civic/educational program of the Overseas Education Fund ... the OEF has performed its task extremely well under extremely difficult conditions and I only hope that it will continue and it will expand on its operations."

At the request of the Women Governors, an OEF team has just completed a second successful series on the "The Responsibility of Women in the Development Process." In October, a five-day conference helped the Governors to focus on their concerns in education, health, and service to youth. The Governors, now in their third year in office, have shown remarkable growth as leaders. In analyzing their experiences at the October conference, many dated their activities as "before" or "after" OEF seminars. Reports of additional conferences recently held will be in the next Newsletter.

EASTERN LEAGUES PROGRAM VISIT FOR THAI GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL

OEF undertook an unusual new assignment last Spring at the request of the Department of State when it arranged an intensive briefing and travel program for an election official from Thailand.

Mr. Sawai Purammani, who wrote the election section of Thailand's newly adopted constitution, was in the United States from March through June to study U.S. election procedures; he will supervise the local elections which will take place in Thailand this year. His travel program in this country was arranged with enthusiasm and skill by ten state Leagues of Women Voters and local Leagues in the District of Columbia and 19 other localities in the East.

In the course of his travels, Mr. Sawai met two governors, saw several presidential candidates, met many candidates for local office, talked to countless election officials, city councilmen, mayors, political science professors, businessmen, and a large number of his fellow citizens from Thailand studying at universities in the United States.

Although the Leagues' agenda planning was so thorough that Mr. Sawai had to ask time out for a haircut, he was enthusiastic about his experiences and advocated that all visitors to the U.S. should have the kind of hospitality that had been extended to him. His program concluded with a course on American government at the University of Connecticut, where his professors said that he knew more about the subject than most American citizens. The Department of State has asked OEF to make itself available for future projects of this kind. Through its links with Leagues of Women Voters throughout the country, OEF can provide briefing and exchange programs of unusual depth for foreign visitors.

OEF BEGINS NEW SERVICE FOR U.S. WOMEN GOING ABROAD

1947 was the year the Overseas Education Fund was founded and also the first year of the Marshall Plan, which many feel started the great trek of American families living abroad in government and military service.

Today, with approximately 1,800,000 Americans (including 250,000 family groups) now living outside the boundaries of the United States, there is a need often expressed - particularly in the Washington area - for some sort of orientation service for women who want to be informed and useful temporary citizens in the countries they are visiting. This Fall, OEF introduced a one-day seminar to assist "The U.S. Woman Abroad."

The idea for the seminar was suggested by Mr. James Fowler, Deputy U.S. Coordinator for the State Department, and a special advisory committee of distinguished women was formed to work on the planning. The result was a program on September 27 challenging enough to attract 35 participants representing 13 different organizations.

The morning session on "Relating to Individuals Abroad" was ably conducted by Mrs. Alison Raymond Lanier, author of "Half the World's People" and presently Director of Overseas Briefing Associates. An afternoon panel discussed "Discovering and Relating to the Community and Its Existing Organizations," reminding the participants of many do's and don'ts as well as answering some specific questions.

League of Women Voters of the U.S.

[redacted]

July 1965

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE LEAGUE STYLE

The Overseas Education Fund -- a Practical Approach for I.C.Y.

(The following material has been put in speech form and can be used as such in whole or in part. A personal adaptation of any speech always makes it more effective. If your local League has ever entertained an OEF sponsored visitor -- or any foreign visitor for that matter -- allusions to the visit will help make the presentation more appropriate for the particular locale. If you are talking to a non-League audience references to the work of the organization addressed put the audience in a more receptive mood. Opportunities for this sort of reference will suggest themselves at various places in the text.)

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During 1965 we are celebrating International Cooperation Year -- the year that marks the 20th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations. We are being asked to take a look at the constructive work of the United Nations and to advance it if we can and we are being asked, too, to think of creative ways in which people and governments can work together across national boundaries on our common problems. And finally, those of us who are active in organizations have been asked to adapt and enlarge our international activities in honor of the U.N.'s twentieth anniversary year.

More and more the concept seems to be growing that international cooperation is not just an abstract idea to be sought on a very high plane, but is instead a complex network of relationships, interests, and working together wherever and whenever the opportunity presents itself. This complex network includes the work of private voluntary organizations.

As members of organizations, we all know that the voluntary association is often a training ground for democratic habits; we know, too, that our groups are often instruments for important social and political change. Now, the work of voluntary organizations is spreading abroad -- and thus becomes part of international cooperation.

I do not doubt that every one of us belongs to at least one group which has some sort of international program. The General Federation of Women's Clubs, in cooperation with CARE, has a worldwide program to combat illiteracy; church groups have programs; labor groups have programs; the American Home Economics Association has many international interests; so does the AAUW.

(place to make special allusion to group being addressed)

The League of Women Voters is no exception. Through the Overseas Education Fund of the League we share our experience in the practical techniques of active and effective citizenship and, in a way, carry on a sort of technical assistance program overseas especially in Latin America.

During International Cooperation Year we are taking a good look at the Overseas Education Fund and bringing ourselves up-to-date on what they are doing and trying to "think creatively" on how their activities might be enlarged. The OEF -- or the Carrie Chapman Catt Memorial Fund as it was called at first -- began as a very modest venture in 1947. The Fund was started because the League itself could not respond adequately to requests for help from women overseas. After World War II letters came thick and fast asking for information and materials. Not only women, but men too, wrote to find out how they might get organizations started in their countries which would begin the kind of civic education that the League had been carrying on in this country since 1920. So the Fund was started and it was named after Mrs. Catt, the League's founder, as a living memorial to further the ideals of citizen education and world peace to which Mrs. Catt devoted her life.

Among its first assignments was one from the Exchange Program of the Woman's Bureau* which brought seven German women to this country. At the time of World War II a distinguished German woman, an authority on international law, who had come to America in time to escape the Nazi regime, made the statement that one of the reasons Hitler found it possible to rise to power was that German women like herself who were in the forefront of progress had remained self absorbed and not bothered to help other women to progress. When Hitler began his deliberate cultural demoralization of the country there was no vigorous stir of resistance among the women. They had not learned to think for themselves and combat propaganda with fact. After the war, there were some German women who were determined that this would not happen again. The seven who came to this country in 1948 were particularly interested in seeing a nonpartisan but political organization like the League of Women Voters in action.

They got a good deal more than a glimpse of the open society at work. They not only visited Washington and made trips to Capitol Hill but they spread out around the country. The story is told of the visit one of them made to a New England town meeting. There was a hot issue up for discussion and decision and the arguments waxed long and eloquent. After the meeting was over the German visitor was wide-eyed and full of questions. "Wasn't that Mr. Brown who was speaking against the issue? she asked. "Yes," she was told. "And wasn't that Mrs. Brown who was speaking for the Issue?" "Yes," she was told. "And isn't Mrs. Brown Mr. Brown's wife?" Again the answer was yes. By this time the overseas visitor was speechless, but you could see that an idea had taken root.

Japan also sought the aid of the Fund. A ten-weeks study tour was arranged for a Japanese teacher who was in the United States for graduate study. On her return to Japan she was active in an organization modeled on the League of Women Voters; she ran for the Diet and then was appointed chairman of the Women's and Minors' Bureau in the Labor ministry.

In response to requests from Italy the Fund sent a League leader to that country to spend four months in remote rural sections of the South. Upon her recommendation the Fund assisted the Union for the Fight Against Illiteracy to train teachers for the instruction of illiterate adults in citizenship as well as in reading and writing. Later, the Fund financed the opening of Centers of Popular Culture in Southern Italian villages and a second teacher training course in Sardinia.

Since these rather modest beginnings the work of the Fund has burgeoned and multiplied. During 1964 over 700 foreign leaders were reached through the formal programs of the Overseas Education Fund. From seven to 700 represents quite a leap forward.

But even the 700 represents a small number in terms of the requests that have been made and that the OEF has been unable to meet because of limitations set by woman-

* of the Department of Labor

power, by available funds and by the necessity to maintain and improve the quality of the work done.

The "work done" ranges from escorting a group of Malaysian political leaders coast to-coast during the period of the 1964 election, to giving courses -- long and short -- on how to become an effective citizen. An encouraging aspect of most educational and training ventures is that they have a multiplying effect. This is especially true of the kind of technical assistance carried on by the Overseas Education Fund. OEF visitors from all over the world are outstanding citizens in their home countries and return to positions of leadership after their trips to the United States Among them are teachers, government workers, officers in women's organizations, members of legislative bodies. They teach others either by their examples or by word of mouth. These visitors from other lands keep in touch with the OEF; they ask for advice, for publications or they request a visit from an OEF field representation.

OEF field representatives are not, I might point out, available for travel all over the world. At the moment they are available only in Central and South America -- the areas selected for the first major program emphasis because here were the major requests; here were evidences of rising potential for development of free institutions. Women are staging a quiet revolution in Latin America and they are asking for help in developing their communities. They say their problems are these: lack of leadership; inexperience in organizational methods and techniques; difficulty in completing projects; and difficulties in working together harmoniously in a setting of political, economic, and social differences.

For four years now, in Washington, the OEF has given a seminar "The Citizen and Her Community" for Latin American Women leaders brought to the United States on leader grants from the Department of State. Sixty-four women from 12 countries have now participated along with ten from the United States. These courses, which keep the problems of the participants in mind, are followed each year by a study tour of the United States for the visitors. They visit educational institutions, attend budget hearings in city halls, observe polling places on election day, attend meetings of women's groups, and see "how America lives" in homes and at dinner tables right across the country.

They have returned home resolved to promote courses similar to "The Citizen and Her Community" in their countries. The OEF field representatives keep in touch with these women. Volunteer consultants have made nine trips in all to Latin America and now four professional field representatives bring continuity to the work. Two of the four field representatives are based overseas, one in Central America, the other in Brazil; and the other two make several extensive trips each year from the Washington office to the countries of Central and South America. Their activities vary from country to country, but everywhere they have found women eager to meet with them, eager to learn and possessed of a rather terrifying, legendary belief in the North American's ability to organize.

The fall of 1963 saw the inauguration of a new program, the OEF Leadership Institute at Wellesley College. Eleven young women from seven Latin American countries and two from the U.S. studied and lived on the Wellesley campus being trained for careers as professionals or volunteers in the field of community services with institutions and agencies in their home countries. Another group enrolled in the fall of 1964. The resources of the college, the town and nearby communities were combined harmoniously to afford Institute members a real "laboratory" experience in their field of specialization.

The young women who attended the first Institute at Wellesley are now back home putting to work what they have learned. One of the Institute graduates was the

sparkplug for a United Fund type campaign for the YMCA in Quito, Equador, where the organization raised five times more money in one day than they had ever raised before in campaigns of longer duration; in San Juan, Argentina, the Institute graduate used her training to interest women's organizations in setting up a permanent training program for volunteers; in Bogota, Colombia, a graduate has been elected president of the Bogota section of a national woman's civic organization as well as being the staff member for a newly organized volunteer bureau in that city.

The members of the second Institute have already returned to their home countries adding eleven more interns in the field to multiply the effect of OEF training. In the fall of 1965 Pembroke College of Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, will become the new home of the Institute.

For the past two years OEF has operated on a regional basis in Central America, sponsoring jointly with local women's organizations a workshop on community problems. Membership in these workshops is drawn from the Central American Republics. Another is being planned for 1966.

Aside from the fact that the Overseas Education Fund was established by the League of Women Voters what has the individual League and the individual League member got to do with all this?

Two things. First, local Leagues are very often asked by the OEF to plan a program of activities in the local community which will help interpret the way self government functions in this country.

And second, local Leagues are the nourishing roots of the OEF. If a local League puts out a good voters service publication or develops an effective way of getting things done and the technique seems to be exportable, news of the development eventually finds its way into the mainstream of the OEF and becomes part of its kit of tools in the OEF brand of technical assistance.

Not everything the League does -- not all of the techniques of any American organization -- are exportable. And certainly neither in the courses nor through the OEF staff representatives is the suggestion made that "our way is the best way."

*/Still and all you have only to look at the OEF "Handbook for Leaders of Organizations" to see the League imprint. For example, take the section on "Effective Program Making." It begins thus: "Here is the key to all good program-making: the individual member must have the opportunity to take part in its selection. Then and only then will the group as a whole make it a success." The section goes on until we come to a part on "Carrying Out the Program" and we find this: "Here again the individual member is the core of strength. The more the members become involved in program activities, the more effective will the organization become. Let us consider three ways in which the program can be carried forward: by study and research committees, by membership meetings, and by community action." Sound familiar?

You won't be surprised to hear that the OEF Handbook also advises: "Make a study of the situation both locally and in other communities ... prepare any written material needed ... provide discussion leaders and speakers ... keep the Board informed....

You won't be surprised either to learn that Know Your Town studies have been carried to completion in several countries in Latin America. Others are underway. The Spanish edition of "How to Do a Know Your Town Government" study has been available for five years./

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* For a non-League audience this section may be omitted.

There is more -- much more -- to tell about the adventures of the OEF just as there is much to tell about the overseas activities of all of our groups. But I think the point is clear. If, indeed, voluntary organizations provide training grounds for democratic habits; if, indeed, voluntary associations can be an important instrument for social and political change, technical assistance in setting up sound patterns of organization is a most important kind of assistance.

And in addition, Technical Assistance--League style and all of the programs of other organizations as well, help to build the complex network of contacts, relationships, and shared beliefs which is, after all, what International Cooperation Year is all about.

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O.E.F.

Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women Voters

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Mrs. John D. Briscoe, President

SUMMARY STATEMENT
of
PROGRAMS OF THE OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND
1965

At the present time the Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women Voters carries on the following programs:

BRIEFINGS OF OVERSEAS GUESTS

Describing and interpreting how our government functions and how the League of Women Voters has become a politically effective voluntary association is one of the important programs of the Overseas Education Fund. In 1964 110 men and women visitors from 37 countries attended briefing sessions in our Washington headquarters, and in the next six months an additional 46 individuals from 20 countries were accommodated.

PROGRAMMING OVERSEAS GUESTS

The majority of those who are briefed at headquarters have an opportunity to visit Capitol Hill to see congressional committees and the Congress in action, and to meet specific political leaders who might be helpful to them in their areas of particular interest. The OEF also programs persons who desire to observe government-in-action at the grass roots level. An example of such a project was the arrangements made for 7 Malaysian men - all political leaders - to travel with an OEF escort to many US communities during the 1964 pre-and post-election periods to see methods of getting out the vote, to attend candidates' meetings, to observe election procedures, and to follow the activities of local citizens' groups.

TRAINING PROGRAMS IN WASHINGTON

Short courses from three to six sessions are tailor-made for men and women visitors from overseas who want to know about some of the techniques of running democratic institutions and of becoming effective citizens in their communities. Over the past two years such programs have been held for 58 people from 16 countries.

In 1961, 1962 and 1963 the OEF conducted 3 three-week seminars on "The Citizen in a Free Society". Participants were Leader-grantees sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Exchange of the Department of State. In the fall of 1964 the Fund conducted two two-week seminars, one for a Spanish-speaking multinational group of women leaders from Latin America and the other for Portuguese-speaking women from Brazil. Another seminar is scheduled for the fall of 1965. The OEF, through its field representatives and by correspondence, keeps in touch with all of these participants on their return to their communities in Latin America, and the effectiveness of many of them has been remarkable.

OEF LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

In 1963 through the financial assistance primarily of the Rockefeller Foundation and the Agency for International Development the OEF established a Leadership Institute at Wellesley College to train selected Latin American and United States women to prepare for careers with voluntary organizations. The first group of Latin Americans spent their second year in the program under the supervision of OEF field representatives, working in many areas of community development in their home countries. In January, 1965, they met in Lima, Peru for a mid-year conference and came together again for a final evaluation conference in Puerto Rico in June, 1965.

The members of the second group received certificates for completion of their U.S. training at ceremonies in the White House in June, 1965, and they, too, will have a field work year at home in Latin America. The third Institute, along similar lines, will be underway at Brown University, Providence, R. I. in September, 1965.

CENTRAL AMERICAN WORKSHOPS

Responding to the desire in Central America for interchange of information on a regional basis, OEF with the co-sponsorship of a local association, organized the first Central American Workshop in Sal Salvador, El Salvador, in May, 1964. The interest of the first Workshop participants and Central American voluntary organizations resulted in a second Central American Workshop, held in San Jose, Costa Rica in May, 1965, with 22 representatives from the various republics present. The theme of the Workshop was "The Participation of Voluntary Organizations in the Development of Civic Education Programs". The participants sought to define terms and plan programs based on research data which they gathered and presented. The response to these seminars has been enthusiastic, and a third workshop is already being planned for spring of 1966.

OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD

While the Fund at present has full time field representatives only for Latin America, OEF receives and responds to requests from every continent. Assistance on effective methods in developing voluntary organizations especially related to citizenship is provided through careful correspondence and the distribution of free publications. It has been possible occasionally to use and finance the services of a knowledgeable League member or OEF Board member who was traveling in the area. In the past 2 years OEF has answered requests from 37 countries outside of Latin America.

PUBLICATIONS

Classroom materials are prepared and furnished as needed in French, Spanish and Portuguese. More formal publications include Simplified Parliamentary Procedure, Handbook for Leaders of Organizations (new edition just off the press), New Patterns for Women and Pocket Reference on the United Nations. All of these are in English and Spanish.

August 15, 1965

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS EDUCATION FUND

[redacted]

August 14, 1961

TO: Local and State League Presidents
FROM: Mrs. Alf Gundersen, Chairman, League of Women Voters Education Fund
RE: GOVERNMENT IN ACTION (Natl Publication)

Because the work of the Education Fund is beginning to spread out through universities and national organizations other than the League of Women Voters, it seems that some brief outline of the most recent project, GOVERNMENT IN ACTION, would be welcomed by you. A report was made to the Council delegates in April of this year but this probably did not reach you unless you were a delegate. I am therefore repeating the Council report in part to give the background on the League of Women Voters Education Fund.

"The League of Women Voters Education Fund is now in the fourth year of operation. It is tax exempt and functions exclusively for educational purposes. Its activities are under the direction of a Board of Trustees elected by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of the U.S. for two-year terms.

"During its first years it was engaged in qualifying for tax exemption; consequently its activities were limited. The publication of a pamphlet CLOSE-UP OF WASHINGTON - a visitor's guide to the history, government and monuments of the Nation's Capital - was its first project and to date over 34,000 copies have been sold to schools, libraries, Leagues of Women Voters, clubs, labor unions and business firms.

"In 1960 the Education Fund, through a grant from The Fund for Adult Education, made funds available to Indiana University for a GOVERNMENT IN ACTION course designed as a lecture-discussion series for sommunity leaders. This course is now in progress at the Indianapolis Downtown Center of the University. Thirty-five individuals are enrolled for the 14-week course. These leaders come from such groups as: PTA Council, Jewish Welfare Federation, the AFL-CIO, Junior Chamber of Commerce, both Democratic and Republican Party organizations, Church Federation, Bar Association, Public Schools. The program has been developed to assist leaders of civic and community organizations to enlarge their effective role in governmental affairs and to bring others in their organizations into fuller participation in government. Wide use is being made of audio-visual techniques. The course is similar to one sponsored at Syracuse University by that university and the Carrie Chapman Catt Memorial Fund in 1959."

A three-day Conference was held at Sagamore, New York, in June 1961 for the purpose of evaluating the effectiveness, actual and potential, of the GOVERNMENT IN ACTION project. Course leaders, representative class participants, sponsors and representatives of national organizations having had participants in either course were present.* The pilot projects were described and evaluated by class participants

*Invitations were sent to 25 selected national organizations. The following were among those sending representatives: Natl. Education Assoc., Council of Jewish Women, Y.W.C.A., Catholic Daughters of America, Council of Negro Women, A.A.U.W., U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Farm Bureau, Typographical Union. Representatives of B'nai B'rith, Farmers' Union, Fed. Extension Service of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Nat. Assoc. of Manufacturers, Nat. School Board Assoc. and the N.Y.State AFL-CIO accepted but were prevented by various eleventh hour contingencies from participating; but all have expressed their interest in future projects.

and sponsoring committee members, there were deomonstrations of class techniques used, including class discussion, lectures and visual aids. The question before the Conference was the value of GIA courses as a method of strengthening local leadership in the process of democratic representative government.

The group was exceptionally quick in grasping the whole concept of GOVERNMENT IN ACTION and in taking part in the discussion and contributing ideas toward the future development of the project. There was unanimous agreement that GOVERNMENT IN ACTION was a most valuable project which must be continued and spread. Though all expressed readiness to cooperate in starting and managing future projects there was again complete agreement that some one organization must be responsible for keeping the idea alive and initiating future projects, and that this would have to be the League of Women Voters Education Fund.

As a result of this Conference and the enthusiasm of the participants, it is entirely possible that local Leagues may receive requests for information or cooperation related to the GOVERNMENT IN ACTION adult education project from some of these national organizations through their local affiliates. If you need further information it is available through the League of Women Voters Education Fund office. There are to be available to you - and any others interested - two pamphlets planned for publication in December. One of these will be written for the use of universities, showing how the pilot projects at Syracuse and Indiana were set up and giving a bibliography of available material. The second pamphlet will be written for the use of national organizations and individuals setting up a community course. This manual will also contain the experience of participating organizations in the pilot projects and a bibliography of materials. These pamphlets will be available on order from the LWV Education Fund, Room 512, 1026 17th Street, N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

Martin Peretz

Newsletter

League of Women Voters EDUCATION FUND

[redacted]

Vol. 1 - No. 1 - PROGRAM - March 1965

Forty-five years of study and experience by the members of the League of Women Voters have given to the Education Fund the knowledge and techniques with which to extend this education in citizenship beyond the area now possible for the League itself. In so doing we are able to test the validity of methods in different socio-economic strata of our society, to reach an ever-widening circle of people.

The work of the Education Fund since its establishment in 1957 has been carried out with the cooperation of universities, civic leadership in large and small communities, organizations national in scope and organizations local in pattern. We have been active from Massachusetts to California and from Washington State to Georgia.

Following is a description of projects in which the Education Fund has been involved:

Government in Action - a university-based project conceived and carried out by the Education Fund to assist leaders of civic and community organizations to enlarge their effective role in governmental affairs and to bring their organizations into fuller participation in the dynamic processes of government. The course is given under the auspices of the Adult Education or Extension Division of a university, under the sponsorship of a community committee, organized in almost every case by the local L.W.V.

The universities at which such courses have been or are being given include: Syracuse, Indiana, Connecticut, Wisconsin (at Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha), California (at Riverside), and Armstrong College (at Savannah, Ga.)

Schools for Citizens - to develop greater awareness and understanding of the functions of local, state, and national government and to train citizens in the techniques of presenting information and leading discussions effectively. Under this program, leaders from different communities attend a training seminar and then go back to their own communities and conduct their own "schools". Each has had a special emphasis: the rapidly growing community, the suburban community, state and local government, etc. The seminars have been held in Pennsylvania - School for Citizens; New York - State Leadership Conferences; New Jersey - Seminar for Leaders; Middle Atlantic - Workshop on Public Relations.

River Basin Studies and Conservation Projects - designed to give citizens background information which they need in order to understand the complex process of water resource development and to show the many ways in which citizens are able to participate in the process.

Under the heading of conservation projects are: a book, tentatively entitled "Water, People and Politics", in preparation, and three "Schools for Citizens on Land and Water Use", scheduled to be held this spring. These will deal with: The Connecticut River Basin (Amherst, Mass., March 10-12), the Southeastern River Basins (Atlanta, Ga., March 24-25), and the Lake Erie Basin (Cleveland, Ohio, March 30-31 and April 1).

Registration and Voting - aimed at increasing the registration and voting among minority groups and by so doing to advance these citizens along the road of greater participation in government and more understanding of the democratic process.

EDUCATION FUND HELPS MEET NEW CHALLENGES IN VOTERS SERVICES

People who live in the central cores of our great cities do not participate in the political life of their communities as do middle-class suburban Americans. Negroes, Puerto Ricans, and migrants from Appalachia feel powerless to effect change in their schools, their housing, their jobs, or - the future of their cities. They have no experience with successful citizen action. Yet, as former city dwellers move to the suburbs, new in-migrants must come to understand that they have a stake in their cities and that they can influence policy. What they lack is motivation, voter education, political leadership and know-how.

To confront some of these needs the Education Fund in 1964, with a grant from Sears-Roebuck Foundation, conducted five pilot registration and voting projects in the inner city areas of Bridgeport, Conn., Cincinnati and Cleveland, Indianapolis and Milwaukee. Through the cooperative efforts of local Leagues, settlement houses, labor unions, churches, Negro, Puerto Rican and civil rights groups, many people were reached by personal contact and motivated to register and vote for the first time.

For 1965 the Fund has received another grant from The Sears Foundation to conduct another set of registration and voting projects tied to local city issues and elections. Negotiations as to communities to be selected are now going on.

These projects are only the beginning of a sustaining program that the Education Fund hopes will help inner city people develop political skills to become full-fledged citizens. In the future are plans to work with indigenous leaders to bring information on issues, on political parties, on how government works to block clubs, neighborhood councils and the like; to develop leadership training schools, to help inner city people see how they can interview candidates, prepare material on issues and candidates and demonstrate voting machines.

L.W.V. EDUCATION FUND PUBLICATIONS

Close-Up of Washington - for the visitor to the Capital. (Out of print)

Government in Action - A Course for Training Civic Leaders - Handbook for Universities and a Handbook for Organizations.

The Role of Political Parties, U.S.A. - by Joseph Harsch; updated by Frederic W Collins

Cohasset Through a Spyglass - prepared by LWV of Cohasset, Mass.

A Guide for Georgia Voters; A Guide for Mississippi Voters; A Guide for Washington (State) Voters - prepared by State Leagues.

The Ohio River Basin - prepared by the Inter-League Committee of the Ohio River Basin

The SuAsCo - The Sudbury, Assabet, Concord River Basin - prepared by the LWVs in Basin

You and Your Vote - prepared by the LWV of Philadelphia, Pa.

Con-Con Kits - prepared by the LWV of New Hampshire on the Constitutional Convention, for use in social study courses.

FACILITIES OF EDUCATION FUND

The facilities of the Education Fund are available to other organizations as well as to local Leagues which wish to publish materials or develop educational courses, workshops, or conferences in the field of government. IF YOU WISH TO MAKE USE OF ANY OF THE SERVICES OF THE FUND, WRITE TO OUR OFFICE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

Newsletter

League of Women Voters EDUCATION FUND

[redacted]

Vol. I - No. 2 June 1965

ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT USING THE EDUCATION FUND ?

The League of Women Voters Education Fund, established in 1957, undertakes educational programs in the field of government, financed through grants, gifts, and bequests from Foundations, corporations, and individuals. All such gifts are tax-deductible.

The services of the EDUCATION FUND are available to state and local Leagues and to other organizations which wish to publish material or develop education courses in the governmental area. There are certain procedures which govern the services offered:

(1) It is necessary to remember that the EDUCATION FUND is not a source of money. Grants or gifts to the EDUCATION FUND must be found by the initiators of a project.

(2) The contents of publications, conferences, or courses conducted by the FUND may be aimed at awakening citizens to the meaning of citizenship responsibility, the place of citizen leadership, and the necessity for citizen decisions, but they may not be directed toward the support of any specific legislation or political program.

(3) Publications of the EDUCATION FUND cannot be sold for profit.

(4) All plans for requests to Foundations, corporations, or individuals must be cleared with local and state finance chairmen and the office of the EDUCATION FUND before the formal requests are made to prospective donors.

(5) All projects must be formally presented to the Trustees of the EDUCATION FUND for their approval.

(6) A state or local League or other organization wishing to request the services of the EDUCATION FUND should write to the League of Women Voters EDUCATION FUND, 1200 - 17th. St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 for a Request Form on which to apply to the Trustees for their consideration. Chapter X of the Art of Raising Money, published by the League of Women Voters of the U.S., contains a detailed description of the League of Women Voters EDUCATION FUND and its uses.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING ?

Schools for Citizens on Land and Water Use for Tomorrow's Living is the title of a pilot project developed by the EDUCATION FUND and supported by a two-year demonstration grant from Water Supply and Pollution Control, USPHS. As first phase of this project, three seminars were held in March 1965 to prepare leaders to conduct schools for citizens in their own communities, in thirteen states.

Three-day seminars in Amherst and Cleveland focused on land and water use in Connecticut River and Lake Erie Basins respectively; a two-day one in Atlanta on Southeastern U.S. rivers. Each program covered land and water needs of the basin, tools available for meeting such needs, and techniques for giving information and stimulating citizen action.

The seminars were planned and executed by local committees, assisted by the EDUCATION FUND. Each committee included LWV leaders from the states involved and men from universities, organizations, industry, and government. From the time the planning committees were formed in October 1964, the project attracted the interest and support of conservation, civic, business, academic and governmental groups. This made it possible to secure topnotch faculties and meant that more leaders were nominated by organizations than could be accepted as participants.

The 40 community leaders at each seminar represented a wide range of groups such as conservation, recreation, industry, labor, farm, women's clubs, planners, engineers,

government officials, etc. The participants were of high caliber, with background and contacts which should enable them to carry out effective schools for citizens or other follow-up activities. The rapport among those attending -- faculty, committee members, and participants -- demonstrated that it is possible for diverse groups to work together. Follow-up committees plan to keep in touch with seminar participants in order that the maximum potentials of the project may be realized.

The Project Director, Mrs. Whittemore, was Chairman of the Panel on Citizen Action at the White House Conference on Natural Beauty, held in Washington, May 24 and 25.

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A Middle Atlantic Public Relations Workshop, called "Who Listens?", was held on March 30-31, 1965, at the Treadway Inn in St. Davids, Pa., sponsored by the EDUCATION FUND.

This Workshop was designed to benefit members of volunteer organizations who are working in Public Relations. Forty men and women were selected to attend from four states-Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, and West Virginia. These participants represented 28 different organizations, and were selected from 165 nominations. All 40 attended the whole two-day Workshop.

The philosophy and purpose of Public Relations was explained and discussed, but the most helpful part of the Workshop seemed to be the sessions on techniques such as radio, TV, direct mailing, visual aids, and how to write and get newspaper publicity.

All expenses of the participants were paid by a grant from the regional Sears-Roebuck Foundation. The local committee that planned the Workshop was made up of members of the four State Leagues and representatives from several other organizations.

WHAT ARE OUR FUTURE PLANS ?

Pilot projects in Registration and Voting, aimed to increase the participation of inner city people in government, begun in 1964 under a grant from The Sears-Roebuck Foundation, are being extended in 1965 under a second grant. Arousing interest in the local elections that will be taking place, increasing knowledge of election laws, and learning new techniques of campaigning are among the tasks confronting the local leaders who will meet in Washington on June 8 and 9 for a training conference.

The conference will bring together eight leaders from each of four cities: Detroit, Mich., Long Beach, Calif., New Orleans, La., and Rochester, N.Y. Participants include indigenous neighborhood leaders, representatives of a variety of community organizations, and a local League project chairman.

Commitment of the successful 1964 projects to a continuing process of voter education through coordination of ever-widening local effort is most impressive.

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The League of Women Voters EDUCATION FUND, under a grant by the Philadelphia Regional Office of The Sears-Roebuck Foundation, is sponsoring a two-day Seminar for Leaders in the Camden-Trenton area of New Jersey. The subject will be the Inter-relationship of the suburbs with the core cities. This is a completely new area of exploration on our part, and we hope to develop an understanding and even maybe a few ways of helping to solve some of the problems in these areas.

The Seminar will be held the end of November 1965. The local planning committee is mostly made up of members of the League of Women Voters of New Jersey.

# # # # #

cc: Nolle, Casperson, Joor, F reedman

July 16, 1965

Mrs. Arthur E. Whittemore
Trustee and Project Director
League of Women Voters Education Fund
[redacted]

Dear Mrs. Whittemore:

Well, cheers for the U. S. Public Health Service! The League of Women Voters of Texas is still quite interested in such an educational effort as that presented by the Education Fund's Seminars. We were sorry we couldn't be included last year and are quite pleased to be at the top of the list for a new series.

I reread my July 30, 1964 letter to you and can add little to it in the way of further suggestions, etc. Mrs. Brownscombe is now serving on the state Board and I am still interested in doing what I can to assist.

Governor Connally is quite interested in water planning and was instrumental in the initiation and passage of legislation along these lines in the recent session of the Legislature. I'm sorry I simply cannot remember, as I write this, the exact kind of legislation that was enacted but long-range planning for diversion is part of it. The League of Women Voters of Texas did not support this legislation in the recent session for two reasons, 1) a tremendously heavy workload on other state legislation, and 2) some political implications that we thought it best to stay out of because of possible effect on some of our own League-sponsored bills.

Do count us in to help with your pioneering in Texas.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Maurice H. Brown
President

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Greenman

League of Women Voters EDUCATION FUND

1200 17th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20036 • Telephone 296-2394

July 9, 1965

Mrs. Alf Gundersen
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La Crosse, Wis.

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Mrs. Arthur E. Whittemore
Hingham, Mass.

Mrs. Richard J. Witkind
Columbus, Ohio

Mrs. William H. Wood
Bladensburg, Md.

Mrs. Arthur Yabroff
Arlington, Va.

Mrs. Maurice H. Brown, President
League of Women Voters of Texas
[redacted]

JUL 13 9

Dear Mrs. Brown:

You may recall that a year ago (July 27, 1964) I wrote to ask about League interest in undertaking one of our "Seminars for Community Leaders on Land and Water Use", to be followed by a number of "Schools for Citizens". Your enthusiastic and positive response (July 30, 1964) impressed us very much. We were sorely tempted, but the size of your area and distance from Washington were too great to tackle in an initial pilot project, the Committee decided.

The three Seminars we held in March 1965 were so successful, however, that the U.S. Public Health Service has given us a fresh grant for a new series, to be conducted in the spring of 1966. Now that we have pioneered in our own backyard, so to speak, we would like, with your help, to pioneer in Texas, and I am writing to ask what you think of the idea. Texas is first on our list for new choices, because we are convinced that you have the League leadership and enthusiasm necessary for the success of such a project. We also think that the water situation in Texas is ripe for such a state-wide educational effort. Is it not true that the Governor has taken an interest in regional planning and diversion of water from one basin to another? Pollution, especially serious in the Houston channel, is another area on which we would focus. The timing, it seems to us, would be good. We hope that this is, in fact, the case. As you will recall, our subject matter also includes land use, because we find it impossible to discuss water without getting into land management, preservation of open spaces, zoning, etc. Land and water also attracts wider community interest.

In your letter of July 30, 1964, you mentioned various names as possible committee members and asked about your newspaper editor. I should think that he would be a valuable member of your planning committee. We found that the businessmen and university professors who served in the three 1965 areas were especially helpful in suggesting participants and speakers and in helping to plan the program. The working core of each committee would be League

members, of course, but the broader the base of the planning committee, the more successful. We found that a committee of about 15 can work together effectively if each is in on the first planning sessions and understands thoroughly our goals.

I do wish you could talk to some of the League leaders who planned the 1965 Seminars! They are extremely enthusiastic about the value of the Seminars and are convinced that the project is a genuine public relations stimulus to the League. They say that the Seminars brought them into a working relationship with groups with whom they had heretofore been unable to communicate. Committee members also report a tremendous personal satisfaction from their work on the project and are continuing to serve on the follow-up committees to encourage and help the participants carry on meaningful projects in local areas. One Leader is already planning a reunion; another has a series of Newsletters in progress.

Enclosed for your interest is our Education Fund NEWSLETTER, giving a short summary of the three seminars already held. An article will also appear in the July issue of the NATIONAL VOTER. I am including a list of the various organizations which nominated the selected participants, so that you can note the wide variety of points of view and the types of organizations contacted.

Can you let us know as soon as possible whether the Texas League would like to cooperate with us in bringing this type of project to the state? We think that a Texas Seminar could be both valuable and exciting, and look forward to your suggestions.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Arthur E. Whittemore
Trustee and Project Director

cc: LWVUS

Mrs. William E. Joor, II,
National Program Chairman

[redacted]

Newsletter

League of Women Voters EDUCATION FUND

[redacted]

Vol. 2 - No. 3 August 1966

The League of Women Voters Education Fund is nine years old. In that brief span of time the Fund has grown from a very small organization with a limited budget to an organization administering a multiplicity of projects and with a yearly budget of well over $100,000. We anticipate continued growth and expansion.

On July 5 we added to our staff our first executive director, Miss Christine Urban, who comes to us with fourteen years of experience as a member of the national staff of the League of Women Voters of the United States. You will note below that we have just initiated a new and exciting project which we hope will help the newly apportioned Florida state legislature do a more effective job in meeting the problems of state government. You will also note that we are about to produce an important book about the trials and triumphs in citizen action on water problems: "THE BIG WATER FIGHT." We hope to continue our "Water Seminars for Leaders" and the follow-up local "Schools for Citizens on Land and Water Use." We are negotiating now for funds to continue our Inner City Projects in voter education. The Registration and Voting Projects initiated by the Fund in 1964 are continuing now under their own steam.

In general, Education Fund projects fall into three categories: those that come about as requests from local and state Leagues and other organizations; those we initiate ourselves, communicating the experiences and techniques developed by the League of Women Voters in citizen education over the years to other organizations and individuals; and those we initiate to experiment with and test new techniques in citizen education. Experiences from these latter projects we hope eventually to pass on to local Leagues and other citizen organizations to expand and enhance their own efforts in bringing about greater citizen participation in our democratic processes.

We think we have a challenging and productive future and we solicit the continued attention and support of all of you who get this NEWSLETTER and are interested in our purposes and our goals.

Mrs. John A. Campbell, Chairman

A NEW AND DIFFERENT PROJECT

A conference to provide Florida legislators with the kind of background information that will help them when making decisions in the areas of taxation and finance, education, roads and highways, and health and welfare, will take place January 26-28, 1967, in Tallahassee under joint Education Fund-Florida State University sponsorship. These are issues that are expected to require legislative attention in the near future.

The conference will be divided into discussion groups which will examine the situation as it exists in Florida in each of these problem areas. Then, with the help of experts from within and outside the state, possibilities for the future will be discussed. Many new legislators are expected to be elected in November as a result of Florida's recent reapportionment.

Planning the conference is a committee of three representatives of the Education Fund, (Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Phillips, and Mrs. Lester Saphier of the League of Women Voters of Florida), the University, and both houses of the legislature. Financing is possible through a grant from The Sears-Roebuck Foundation. It is hoped this will be a pilot conference that will serve as a model that can be held in other states.

WATER BOOK COMING SOON

Publication date for our 256-page, hardcover book about citizen interest in water problems is October 21. Titled THE BIG WATER FIGHT, the book includes 17 short case studies written by local or state League of Women Voters members, highlighting specific water controversies and how citizen groups have been influential. From New Jersey to California, from Ann Arbor to Albuquerque, members reported local problems of supply, pollution, flooding, administration, and planning--with details on when, where, and how civic groups participated in helping to shape the decisions.

The Inter-League study of the Sudbury-Assabet-Concord River Basin on the edge of an expanding city (Boston) and a chapter on civic action in the Basin since that report was completed are included. Other river basin studies are briefly summarized.

Aimed at the widest possible audience, this book is a useful guide for all civic groups who want the weight of their informed opinion to count in the decision-making process. One chapter is devoted to general tips on how to be effective, and applies not only to water problems but to any number of issues at the local, state, regional, and federal levels of government.

Other areas discussed in detail are Onondaga County, N. Y.; Tualatin Basin, Oregon; Scottsdale, Ariz.; Montgomery County, Md.; Seattle; Chicago; and the states of Maine, Pennsylvania, and New York. THE BIG WATER FIGHT includes over 20 photographs as well as charts, maps, reading list, glossary, and index.

Three years in the making, the book is a proud record of citizen study and action in the field of water resources management. The publisher is offering League members a special price of $5.75. The offer is good until October 21, after which price reverts to $6.95. Watch the September National Voter for special order coupon.

Trustees 1966-68

The following are Trustees of the Education Fund: Mrs. John A. Campbell, chairman; Mrs. Arthur Yabroff, secretary; Mrs. Donald F. Bishop, treasurer; and Mrs. William M. Christopherson, Mrs. Alf Gundersen, Mrs. Philip Hammer, Mrs. Robert J. Phillips, Mrs. Vernon C. Stoneman, Mrs. Robert J. Stuart, Mrs. John F. Toomey, Mrs. Arthur E. Whittemore, and Mrs. William H. Wood.

The biennial report of Education Fund activity that Mrs. Gundersen and Mrs. Hammer made to the LWV convention is available for 25¢.

A Request - The Education Fund is anxious to build a file of simplified voter education material. If a League has recently published such material, please send a copy to the Education Fund.

Overseas Education Fund
of the League of Women Voters

OEF NEWS

MAR 2 4 1967

March, 1967

To: Friends of OEF
From: Mildred Mersereau, OEF Field Representative

Subject: Dra. Rita Castro Ramos

In 1961, when the Overseas Education Fund conducted its first Washington-based Seminar, one of the participants was Dra. Rita Castro Ramos of Lima, Peru. She arrived a day late due to some red tape back home, and slipped quietly into her place at the discussion table - a small, gray-haired woman with lively brown eyes.

The Seminar was for women leaders, and some of the participants needed little encouragement to talk about their accomplishments. But the little Peruvian seldom spoke. There was nothing passive in her silence, though - she listened, observed, and to judge by her dancing eyes, enjoyed everything; and when she did enter the discussions, her comments were straightforward and helpful.

OEF directors and staff who have had occasion to visit Lima since 1961 have learned considerably more about Dra. Rita. A native of Chachapoya, a village near the Peruvian headwaters of the Amazon, for 30 years she has lived in Lima as student, teacher, professor at San Marcos University, and school administrator. At the time of the Washington Seminar she was in her first year as principal of a new high school for girls that the Ministry of Education had selected her to establish in a crumbling residence in a suburb that was rapidly filling up with industrial workers.

At each of our visits, the school seemed to have doubled in size. Outgrowing its first quarters, it moved into another battered building vacated by a boys' school. Rita patched, painted, gardened, furnished, for the most part out of her own limited funds. Her main effort continued to be the search for ways to build character and the attitudes and habits of responsible citizenship, with the civics class and the various activity clubs as her nuclei. During two successive election campaigns, her students developed a short dramatization of the process of casting a vote and put it on outside of school hours in all the city's literacy training centers.

In 1964, Dra. Rita was called away from the school she had created (which now numbered 2,000 students) to head the Gran Unidad Escolar Migues Grau, which with 3,500 students is the largest public high school for girls in Peru. Here, also, activities and associations are springing up and children and parents are taking on new tasks and winning new confidence in Rita's belief in them. The outward regimentation of Peruvian schools continues in at least partial force, as it probably will for some years to come. Yet democratic attitudes are "breaking out all over" in the sense of worth and belonging and the brand new group relationships among these thousands of girls, many of whom come from the interior of the country and will return there at the end of their schooling.

Dra. Rita did not develop her philosophy of education during her three-week Washington Seminar nor her five-week tour of the U.S. Her civics books with their projects and field trips show that she had long been reaching out for new and more effective ways to teach citizenship. Yet during her U.S. visit, she did attract like a magnet an almost incredible number of new techniques.

But the real value of her experience lies much deeper, and if you listen carefully to the speech of welcome with which she still greets OEF visitors before her huge student body, you will sense what her brief exposure to her friends in Washington and other cities has meant to her. Always quietly underlying her greeting is what she believes the most important news she can bring to her world: "I've seen democracy being lived. And it works."

PERSPECTIVES WORTH NOTING

On "The Theory and Practice of Political Development" by H. Field Haviland, Jr., The Brookings Institution:

"Economic and social development can help significantly to provide the basis for civic advancement, but it will not guarantee it... political development is not simply, or even primarily, a by-product of economic and social progress. ... it can and should be cultivated directly. It is, to some extent, a prerequisite for material advancement.... political development should receive attention and resources more commensurate with its key importance."

"While there is no detailed and universally accepted blueprint for political development, this is no reason to wait passively until one appears. The situation in this field is not fundamentally different from that in other areas of human relations."

"If political development is generally recognized as a key problem and if it is approached in a spirit of partnership among societies sharing common values, significant progress can be made in this crucial area."

On The Utilization of Democratic Institutions in Development (Title IX of the Foreign Assistance act) by the Congressional Conference Committee:

"The great potential for planning and implementation of developing activities, contained in the mass of people of the developing countries, is still largely untapped, which slows down the achievement of the objectives of the foreign assistance program....

"For these reasons, the committee has proposed the language embodied in the new Title IX. This language directs that new attention and emphasis be given in the administration of U. S. development assistance programs to the goal of attaining a larger measure of popular participation in development. This goal can best be achieved through the fostering of... organizations which provide the training ground for leadership and democratic processes; through making possible increased participation of such groups and of individuals in the planning, execution, and evaluation of development undertakings; through broader and more effective utilization of the experience and resources of existing private and voluntary organizations; and, generally, through the building of democratic private and public institutions on all levels -- local, state, and national."

On "The Nongovernmental Organization at Bay," from the 1966 Annual Report of the Carnegie Corporation of New York:

"Why do so many of our private nonprofit organizations seem to have perpetually engrossing financial problems? Why should the men who run them have to spend so much time and effort making the rounds of potential donors, hat in hand, often with disappointing results and always at the expense of their primary administrative and program functions? Has the system for maintaining these organizations become basically unsound?

"These are questions that each year become more insistent as the social value of nongovernmental organizations continues to mount in response to the steadily broadening aspirations of our society and to the nation's expanding international commitments. Indeed, the financial uncertainty of these organizations in the face of growing responsibilities and sharply increased costs threatens to limit their future usefulness and undermine the private side of a public-private partnership through which the nation is now accomplishing some of its most important public business."

Full texts of these articles are available from OEF headquarters.

OEF IN CENTRAL AMERICA

While OEF's U. S. -based seminars and Leadership Institute have helped to remedy the "leadership gap" in South America by providing intensive training for women of particular promise, OEF's primary mission is in the field. It offers professional counsel on program planning to assist voluntary organizations in building democratic structures, in formulating programs for civic action, and in multiplying the number of citizen participants.

One of the areas where OEF's contribution has been increasingly successful and comprehensive is in the Central American countries and Panama. OEF's field representative, Dr. Graciela Quan, former Chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women, has been based in Guatemala since 1963, and a number of promising national and regional activities have been initiated. Organizations of Women Citizens have been founded in Panama, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica. Annually, Leadership Workshops co-sponsored with OEF by these organizations have drawn regional participation for training on extending civic development.

There is also a quickening interest in civic education among teachers and educational institutions. Seminars at the Faculty of Education of the University of Costa Rica and at one of the schools of social service in Guatemala have focussed on training both professionals and volunteers to meet community needs. And in November, Dr. Quan participated in a national workshop in Guatemala for educational supervisors, sponsored by the government, UNESCO and UNICEF, where she conducted sessions on the new focus of civic education as a daily experience.

A fourth regional OEF co-sponsored Workshop is to be held in Costa Rica in the Spring. Attending it will be the sixteen participants of the current OEF Leadership Institute, all from Central America, who complete their year of training in April. These young women will then return to their home countries for a year of intern work under Dr. Quan's guidance. With leadership resources thus greatly strengthened, OEF will encourage and assist in an expanded program of civic education projects in Central America.

OEF LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE TO RELOCATE AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Now in its fourth year (its second at Pembroke College of Brown University), the Leadership Institute will have a new home and a new format, beginning in the Fall of 1967. The eight-month program will be retailored into a three-month Institute, offered three times a year, thus training 60 participants annually. The new Institute will be located within the Office of Conference Development of Boston University's Metrocenter.

While the hospitality and educational facilities of Pembroke have been excellent, Boston University has been chosen as the permanent home of the Institute by OEF's Institute Committee because of its unusual resources in adult education programs and the additional opportunities which its metropolitan setting provides for involvement in community action programs. Field work, including League of Women Voters experience, will continue to be an integral part of the curriculum.

The Leadership Institute, established during the presidency of Mrs. Percy Maxim Lee, continues to be a unique offering in civic leadership training for young Latin American professional women of promise. It might well be described as a creative partnership in international education developed by OEF between government (the Agency for International Development provides basic support), education, and private philanthropy (foundations and individual donors have contributed necessary supplementary funds). Its new format will be developed jointly by members of the OEF Institute Committee, professional staff and advisors and staff and faculty advisors of Boston University.

YOU PLANT.... YOU CULTIVATE.... YOU WAIT.... AND THEN.... ?
OEF's Part in Women's Community Efforts in One Latin American City

By New World standards the city of Cordoba in Argentina is an ancient one, strong in its traditions and deeply rooted in Spanish colonial culture. During recent years, like many Latin American cities it has felt the winds of change. Several large industries have located there, bringing new people, new problems, and new ideas. However, custom and local pride continue to direct community decisions on many levels.

OEF representatives visiting the city in 1960 and 1961 reported that although leaders of local women's organizations welcomed them graciously and expressed interest in helping the individual citizen become more effective, they did not seem at the point of taking action of any definite sort. And so, because we in OEF are few and the demands are many, we did not visit there again until 1965, when an OEF field worker, overnighting there between planes, renewed contacts with earlier acquaintances.

This time the signs were different. Five years after our first visit, we now sensed a clear demand for our help and a readiness to use it. From this time on, OEF workers visited as often as they could, counselled with local leaders, gave talks to community groups, led discussion courses on organization techniques, and finally selected a promising local woman for intensive training at the Leadership Institute.

Plans are now underway for a regional conference to be held in Cordoba in May, and scores of women, hard at work on committees to plan and prepare for it, are learning and teaching a variety of new skills and getting to know and value one another. Local committees in six Argentine cities have organized to prepare for the ten-day meeting.

These women have written to tell us some of the ways that "learning by doing" with OEF guidance has already begun to affect their community. Several courses for volunteers have been held, and more are being programmed. New activities are planned in such diverse fields as Human Rights and the use of the school in Community Development. And the group now working together on the conference expects, with our help, to continue in existence as a Clearing House for community organizations.

The Cordoba conference is the first major civic education project in Argentina which OEF has assisted in launching. But its history is representative of OEF educational programs throughout South America. Months of planning and encouragement, together with professional guidance and concrete support on program planning, financing, and organization development, culminate in a practical learning experience for civic leaders who, with continuing OEF support and counsel, become the resource for self-initiated ideas and programs for civic action in their communities and countries.

ANNUAL MEETING OF OEF TRUSTEES

On January 12, the annual meeting of the OEF trustees was held at the headquarters office. Highlight of the session was an address by Mr. John Plank of The Brookings Institution on Political Development in Latin America. Copies of his speech are available upon request.

In afternoon session, the OEF Board of Directors elected the following slate of officers: Mrs. John Briscoe, (Lakeville, Conn.), President; Mrs. George Little (Old Greenwich, Conn.), First Vice-President; Mrs. John Kreinheder (Wellesley, Mass.), Second Vice-President; Mrs. Walt Rostow (Washington, D.C.), Third Vice-President; Mrs. S. Rains Wallace (Hartford, Conn.), Secretary; and Mrs. Donald Bishop (Philadelphia, Pa.), Treasurer.

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The Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women Voters (formerly the Carrie Chapman Catt Memorial Fund) was established by the League of Women Voters of the United States in 1947. The purpose of the Overseas Education Fund is to share knowledge with men and women in other countries concerning the structure, functions, techniques, and problems of government and thus to encourage better understanding of the responsibilities and potentials for citizenship in a free society.

OEF Leadership Institute

Overseas Education Fund
of the League of Women Voters

[redacted]

change through community action. Observations in New York and Washington, D. C., gave this side of the picture on a large scale. Practical, in depth volunteer work with an organization similar to the cooperating and sponsoring organization rounded out the experience of each member. United Fund of Rhode Island, Planned Parenthood, Girl Scouts, Red Cross and Community Schools were some of the organizations used.

AN ORGANIZATION with which members became thoroughly familiar was the League of Women Voters. Each joined one of the 12 Rhode Island local leagues as an associate member to observe how the League encourages active citizen participation in government. In most cases these memberships were arranged in the community of the host family. Here they studied procedures and worked with Leagues to compile information on current agenda items. Many Leagues also entertained the group as a whole, planning an activity typical of New England community and social life. Included were a clam bake, a square dance, a pot luck supper and many tours of historic significance.

The group also attended the League's National Convention in Denver and two of them addressed the 1360 delegates. Susana Frontera from Argentina pointed out that women from Latin American share with North American women the goal of "a better life, in terms of welfare and peace, not only for us and our families, but for our communities, our nations and the whole world." Margarida Moura from Brazil told how she will adapt what she has seen and learned here to her country. In addition to techniques learned, she has been influenced by the "role of the volunteer and voluntary organizations, the relationship between the citizen and the Government, and the active participation the women have taken in this country."

These are singularly significant statements since today's evolving social systems deeply touch the lives of Latin American women. Even in other areas of the world where social change has occurred more slowly women have not always found it easy to make the transition from effective functioning in the traditional society to fulfillment of their newer responsibilities. In Latin America the outward movement of these responsibilities has occurred so rapidly that many women have not yet grasped the dimensions of the new demands made upon them, and those who have are acutely aware of their need for help in meeting them. Increasingly they are coming together as women to work for civic, cultural and welfare purposes through their own organizations.

Armed with new knowledge and experiences the Institute members are now preparing to enter the second year of their program—their "Intern Year." They returned to work in their home countries, primarily with their sponsoring organizations, in June. Their influence will be multiple because they are the sorts of individuals who combine idealism with activism. What they will accomplish may lead us into higher mathematics when added to the achievements of the 20 Latin American members of the first two Institutes at Wellesley College. This year's members cannot help but be challenged by the successes of preceding Institute graduates. During their Intern year and after they have helped encourage and train countless other leaders while carrying out their roles in voluntary civic and educational groups.

At home next year, they will be working with "Y" and scouting groups, national women's organizations, schools and a variety of community development agencies. While here they have maintained communication with these organizations in order to report experiences of immediate interest and to build plans.

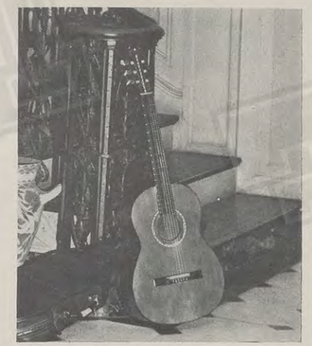
Ruth Alicia Rivero, for example, has been forwarding articles to her home newspaper in Salta, Argentina, to acquaint people with her work in the United States. She hopes on her return to be invited to speak to citizen groups and will make herself available to those in her community who would gain from the leadership course she is prepared to give. The National Ministry of Social Welfare and Public Health nominated Miss Rivero and will assist her to further the work of organizations in her area. She also will work in the Department of Education and teach in a private secondary boys school of agriculture.

Maria Nieves, who did her intensive community work while here with community organizations concerned with child welfare, is another example. As a lawyer, her experience in Venezuela had been in the Ministry of Justice for Juvenile Affairs. Her wish to observe U.S. institutions took her to juvenile court and to several child welfare agencies which will make her services valuable to the Federation of Private Child Welfare Organizations (FIPAN) in Caracas. Miss Nieves will also be in close touch with former Institute graduates in her country and work with them during her intern year.

THOSE R. I. LEAGUE members who have had the privilege of observing the Leadership Institute first hand have no doubt that its members will achieve the aims of responsible women who care to improve human conditions. The Overseas Education Fund, established in 1947 by the League with the purpose of encouraging better understanding of the responsibilities and potentials for citizenship in an open society, has no doubts either. The effectiveness of many of the women, trained in a variety of Fund programs, including the Institute, has been remarkable. Members of the Institute have important goals and good tools to prove that women can be effective in the roles for which they have been trained. They will contribute immeasurably as they help others to do the same.

Pembroke College has enjoyed the association with the Institute and looks forward to next year's Central American Institute. Students who have come in contact with this year's group have had a feeling of broadened horizons. The presence of these purposeful, mature, and intelligent women on campus points up to the undergraduate the enormous possibilities for women in today's world.

The first year at Pembroke for the Leadership Institute included seminars at the Institute's home at 87 Prospect Street, this one conducted by Dr. Caroline Ware, a consultant.



by Barbara Cotton Summer '47

LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR WOMEN OF THE AMERICAS

PEMBROKE COLLEGE served this year and will serve next as hostess to a special program which has stirred interest in Rhode Island as well as in the college community. A Leadership Institute sponsored by the Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women Voters brought 16 Latin American and four North American women to the Pembroke campus for a year-long program. Through it, Pembroke is contributing to the development of another dimension in the role women may play in the world today.

The Institute, which evolved from a series of ideas and earlier programs of the Overseas Education Fund, is designed to train young Latin American and North American women to assume responsible civic leadership roles in their communities, especially by developing and working with voluntary organizations. It is financed by grants from the Agency for International Development (AID), the Rockefeller Foundation, and the Esso Foundation. Dr. Elizabeth M. Garber is the director and Mrs. A. J. Foy Cross, associate director.

The 16 Latin American women are from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Venezuela. Four others are from the United States. Their past experience has been in such diverse fields as the Peace Corps, social work, housing cooperatives, teaching, labor associations, agriculture groups and government service. Some had never left their own countries before, while others had traveled extensively.

The Latin American members were chosen from those nominated by Latin American cooperating organizations, for basic to the Institute program is the involvement of those organizations and leaders in Latin America with whom Institute members could expect to work after the completion of their year of training in the United States. Requirements for nomination are that a woman must be mature, concerned, experienced in community work, and have demonstrated certain characteristics of leadership. She must be willing to communicate her new experiences and skills because the ability of her community to work constructively with her upon her return is a vital consideration. After her nomination, each was interviewed by a field representative of the Fund and finally selected for a scholarship by the Institute committee.

Before coming to the Institute residence at Pembroke, members met for a week of orientation in Washington, D. C. Each then spent a week in a host family home, mostly the homes of members of the League of Women Voters of Rhode Island. Families were chosen partly for their involvement in the life of the community. Family ties were maintained throughout the year with vacation visits and birthday and holiday celebrations. Members of their new communities invited them to many activities such as the new repertory theater performances, concerts and sports events.

On arrival at Pembroke, Institute members took up residence at 87 Prospect Street in the house given to the University by Miss Ellen Sharpe. The house was organized in a way familiar to Pembrokers but not to Latin Americans. The "house meeting" was introduced and through it responsibilities and rules democratically decided upon and undertaken. The handsome pine-panelled dining room was made into a conference room for all-Institute meetings by adding four long tables arranged to form a square. Current fittings also include the Institute library, a standing blackboard, a tape recorder, and charts made by members which illustrate the panorama of sponsoring organizations and the purpose each carries out through activities, programs, and services.

The day after their arrival at Pembroke, the Institute program began and, except for several weeks of field work in New York, Washington, D. C., New Haven, Conn., and San Juan, Puerto Rico, it was carried out at Pembroke and in Rhode Island.

The program for each girl spans two years. The Pembroke year is spent studying and preparing for a second year of work with voluntary organizations in Latin America in consultation with a field representative from the OEF. Thus, it is hoped that not only will women be trained for professional and volunteer work in community leadership and citizen education, but also an increasingly large group of citizens skilled in the democratic process will be built.

THE FOUR-PART PROGRAM of the Pembroke year has been thoughtfully conceived and executed. Its academic phase is based on a colloquium and an audited course at Brown.

The colloquium concentrates on contemporary changes in the Americas. This year Professor William C. McLoughlin coordinated its sessions tracing historical, diplomatic, social, economic, and political developments and noting comparisons and contrasts among the countries in the Western Hemisphere. Professors Perkins, Mayer, Burnight, Borts, Hargrove, Cornwell, and Kirkpatrick of Brown were guest lecturers along with several from other universities, public and private agencies and institutions. The colloquium met weekly for two hours. The presentations by experts were followed by informal discussion and the opportunity to exchange first-hand knowledge. Now and then the discussion would include Spanish or Portuguese words that slipped out in an attempt to express an exact nuance of meaning. The English equivalent was quickly supplied by Institute colleagues. A tape recorder preserved the complete record for those who might want to check a point after the session was completed.

Guitars and folk songs give the Institute a special flavor. From the left: Bernardita Arancibia of Santiago, Chile; Estela Vergelin, of Mendoza, Argentina; and Margarida Moura of São Paulo, Brazil.

After consultation with the University and Institute staff, each member audited one course from the social sciences curriculum which seemed most pertinent for Institute work. These audited courses also served to further their education and keep them up to date in fields of special interest.

In the third part of the program, seminars concentrated on group dynamics and organization techniques, stressing the role of voluntary organizations and discussion methods in the democratic process. Before coming to Pembroke, each member collected information about her own community. She used this information to present a community profile in seminar. These profiles set the stage for further discussion of organization activity and community development, and gave practice in methods of improving techniques and solving problems.

The other quarter of the first-year program was devoted to field work. Field trips were designed to demonstrate how and why U.S. public and private agencies and voluntary organizations serve as a channel for social

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The interest in the OEF Leadership Institute of the author, BARBARA COTTON SUMMER '47, stems from her 10 years on the boards of the Providence and Rhode Island Leagues of Women Voters. Her husband, Dr. Stanley Summer '38, is a dentist and they have two children: John, 14, and Claudia, 13.

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To strengthen leadership resources and remedy the "leadership gap," OEF also gives more intensive training programs lasting from ten days to four months both in the U.S. and in Latin America. These programs have trained more than 750 women in organizational methods and leadership skills. These are the leaders and the emerging leaders who really hold the hope for the future. Through them democracy can be realized because by them it will be practiced in every day life in many situations.

Intensive work of this kind is being carried forward presently in Argentina and Bolivia and throughout Central America. Less concentrated work is being continued through our field staff and headquarters services in many other South American countries.

Some of these women leaders are being invited to the United States for intensive training, for this is the best possible way to provide a broad, first hand experience in the operations of voluntary associations in a democratic context. Since their backgrounds are generally authoritarian in character, it causes considerable cultural shock when they are plunged into our way of living. After all, democracy is less an institution than it is a concept, a process, evolutionary in character, restless in spirit. It has to do with people and their attitudes and behavior patterns. It cannot be taught out of a book; it must be lived.

In all of this, we must not lose sight of the fact that in a democracy, the practices of citizenship is not a profession; it is a voluntary assumption of rights and responsibilities and a willingness to exercise these rights and responsibilities in the public interest.

The Emerging Role of Women Civic Leaders

Who are the Latin American women with whom we are working? A survey of a 10% cross section of the women who have participated in our intensive training programs indicates that 85% of them are working women. They are teachers, businesswomen, social workers, members of the professions of law and medicine. There are among them also journalists, students, congresswomen, and, of course, the invaluable housewife-community leader. Eighty per cent of them are known also to be active in voluntary organizations and services, and more than twenty per cent hold elective offices.

These women are engaged in many activities which contribute to that elusive condition "civic development." Some of their efforts are devoted to expanding the very kind of training and civic education to which

OEF has introduced them. They arrange educational activities for their own groups and seek to reach new audiences. A national leadership training workshop under OEF guidance in Bolivia last year resulted in a second program this year with expanded local initiative. A new group in Argentina has been formed with an OEF directed workshop as an immediate objective and a permanent service function as a long term goal. Through them we are reaching their families, their professions, their voluntary associations, and their whole way of life.

What else constitutes a contribution to "civic development"? To the women OEF has encountered it means spreading the practice of democracy and strengthening the individual's ability to participate in the making of his own future. And there are an almost limitless number of "avenues" to civic development tasks. A partial listing of the extracurricular activities of the graduates of the OEF Leadership Institute - one of our intensive U.S. programs for young Latin American women of promise - includes library reading programs, a TB association, the Girl Scouts, public health agencies, parents groups, U.N. organizations, youth recreation programs, vocational guidance programs, the Red Cross, neighborhood cooperatives, a Voters Service Information program, and a city clean-up campaign.

Visible Progress

The observable progress of civic development in Latin American countries can be stated in these terms: 1) there is more joint action by citizens on community problems; 2) there is more awareness of the local level of government; 3) there is increasing evidence of organization skills among civic groups; 4) there is a breaking down of cultural barriers that have isolated members of a community from one another; 5) there is an awakening of public opinion as evidenced in the communications media; and 6) there is a little more willingness to give financial support to civic activities. These are encouraging signs.

But may I suggest that there is need for a much more effective partnership than presently exists between a private organization such as the Overseas Education Fund and business enterprises with stakes in Latin America. It seems to me that political responsibility and economic stability are indivisable. Latin America is replete with untapped resources, and not the least of these is its women.

Let me emphasize that we have only scratched the surface of both the reality and the vision. We must remember that human beings change slowly and we cannot alter overnight attitudes and behavior patterns which have been entrenched for several hundred years. We must have time and patience and we must expect modifications and rejections of some of the ideas and techniques we employ. Above all, we must recognize the worth of people who are neither of the highest nor the lowest; neither spectacular nor dramatic; but people whose influence can extend in many directions and whose determination to build free, viable, stable, and just societies matches our own.

In sum, there <u>is</u> progress and much to encourage those who are dedicated to democratic values and ideals. The women of South and Central America with whom we are associated are demonstrating the capacity, the courage, and the confidence to meet the challenge of universal human aspirations. For our part, we must not fail them.

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OEF NEWS

June, 1967

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BUILDING DEMOCRACY IN LATIN AMERICA

by

Mrs. John Glessner Lee
Past President, Overseas Education Fund

(Delivered as an address before the Council for Latin America, May 19, 1967, in Washington D. C.)

"To believe in democracy is to wish to help individuals by giving them the tools to help themselves" - so stated the Rockefeller Brothers Fund in a recent report.

The Overseas Education Fund is seeking to aid the women of South and Central American nations in acquiring and utilizing the tools which will enable them to help shape the future of their countries in a democratic context.

The Overseas Education Fund is both like and unlike its parent organization, the League of Women Voters of the United States. The League promotes informed and active participation of citizens in government and thus involves itself in public issues. The OEF never involves itself in issues - its goal is to introduce the process of democracy in order to achieve in an orderly fashion the social advances which the women of Latin America choose as their objectives. The OEF does not foster the establishment of League-like organizations, although in many instances this evolves as a by-product of OEF training and exposure. For example, there are some new women's civic associations now underway in Panama, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Bolivia, and Argentina. The Union of Colombian Women Citizens has been operating successfully for several years. The OEF works constantly with these groups and their leaders to strengthen their effectiveness.

Filling the Need for Civic Education

In addition to its consultative work, the Overseas Education Fund offers educational services through its own staff and through the volunteer resources it trains. The Fund gives short courses to stimulate interest in progressive attitudes and democratic organization methods. These "cursillos" have reached more than 2,000 women in cities and towns and even small villages.

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What Is The Education Fund?

Established in 1957 by the League of Women Voters of the United States, the Fund is a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening citizens' knowledge of the principles of representative government in the United States. It is governed by a 13-member Board.

What Does The Education Fund Do?

Through training conferences and pilot projects, the Fund experiments with and demonstrates techniques to stimulate effective citizen participation in governmental decisions. Basically, Education Fund projects help to show people how to implement plans through orderly citizen action and get things done. The Fund also publishes studies of government, case histories, manuals, and background papers on selected issues. The Fund does not support candidates, specific legislation, or any political party.

What Are The Fund's Continuing Interests?

Two major objectives are:

to stimulate citizen participation in core cities

to enhance the quality of the environment throughout the United States

Does The Education Fund Have A Membership?

It has no membership but may and does call on state and local leaders of the League of Women Voters and other organizations for assistance in initiating experimental projects.

How Is The Education Fund Financed?

The Fund is financed by grants, gifts, and bequests from foundations, corporations, and individuals. All such gifts are tax-deductible.

MAJOR EDUCATION FUND PROJECTS

LAND AND WATER USE PILOT PROJECTS

Such projects have been carried out in six different regions, and nine more are planned from 1967 to 1970. In each region, a three-day Seminar gives carefully selected community leaders the background which will enable them to help their organizations and other citizen groups to take an effective part in land and water decisions in their own communities and states.

Supported by a Demonstration Grant from the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, Department of the Interior

INNER-CITY CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

Baltimore, Boston, and Philadelphia have been chosen for pilot projects in citizen education. The goal is to bring inner-city people more directly into participation in our democratic governmental processes.

Financed by The Ford Foundation

REGISTRATION AND VOTING PROJECT

In succeeding national and local election years, nine community-wide drives with inner-city target areas were conducted, following two Washington, D. C., training conferences. Devising and testing new techniques, a wide cross-section of volunteer organizations reached, motivated, and helped to register thousands of isolated and usually inarticulate citizens in the inner city.

Financed by The Sears-Roebuck Foundation

PRE-SESSION LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCES

A pre-session, three-day conference brought together Florida legislators, Florida State University faculty, and out-of-state experts. Together they projected the problems (and possible solutions) Florida will face in the future — in education, health and welfare, taxes and fiscal policy, roads. First of a series to be held in different states.

Financed by The Sears-Roebuck Foundation

CHINA CONFERENCES

In Oklahoma City and Pittsburgh, civic leaders met to evaluate the coverage of their news media and information sources and to formulate plans for wide dissemination of all points of view on U. S.-China relations.

Financed by the Institute for International Order

Some Locally-Initiated Projects With Local Funding

COUNTY AT THE CROSSROADS: A Conference on Modernizing King County Government, Seattle, Washington

CHINA CONFERENCE, Louisville, Kentucky

PUBLIC RELATIONS SEMINAR, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

URBAN-SUBURBAN COOPERATION CONFERENCE, Newark, New Jersey

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

VOTING IS PEOPLE POWER, a manual telling how to conduct successful inner-city registration and voting campaigns and describing techniques for motivating inner-city citizens. Based on nine inner-city projects.

Financed by The Field and Sears-Roebuck Foundations

THE BIG WATER FIGHT, a book describing citizen action on water problems, based on actual case histories of League of Women Voters work at local, state, regional, and federal levels, often in cooperation with other civic groups. Stephen Greene Press, October 1966; second printing March 1967.

Research and writing supported by a grant from Resources for the Future, Inc.

LAND AND WATER FOR TOMORROW, a handbook based on experience with Land and Water Use Projects in six regions, is designed to help civic and other groups to carry out similar leadership training projects.

Supported by a Demonstration Grant from the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, Department of the Interior

CHALLENGE ON THE HUDSON, a summary of the sessions of the 1966 Hudson-Mohawk River Basin Seminar on Land and Water Use.

Financed by the American Conservation Association, Inc.

GETTING SOMETHING DONE: Techniques for political effectiveness and conference techniques. Prepared by the League of Women Voters of New York State, based on results of four conferences.

Financed by The Sears-Roebuck Foundation

MASSACHUSETTS VOTERS HANDBOOK
Prepared by the LWV of Massachusetts

MISSOURI VOTERS HANDBOOK
Prepared by the LWV of Missouri

REGISTER AND VOTE IN CALIFORNIA
Prepared by the LWV of California

STATE CONSTITUTION REVISION
Prepared by the LWV of Texas

STUDY OF OKLAHOMA CONSTITUTION
Prepared by the LWV of Oklahoma

YOU AND YOUR CITY
Prepared by the LWV of Philadelphia

A publications and price list is available

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League of Women Voters Education Fund

Publications List

VOTING IS PEOPLE POWER — 36 pages — 25¢ prepaid

How to conduct successful registration and voting drives in inner-city areas; based on nine pilot campaigns sponsored by the Education Fund and carried out by Leagues of Women Voters, civil rights organizations, inner-city churches, labor unions, civic associations, and neighborhood groups. April 1967.

THE BIG WATER FIGHT — 256 pages, illustrated, hard cover — $6.95.

The Stephen Greene Press, 120 Main Street, Brattleboro, Vt. 05301. October 1966.

The exciting story of citizen action on problems of water supply, pollution, floods, and planning across the U.S.A. — with full details on how civic groups can gather facts, analyze alternatives, strengthen public understanding, and take effective action in the political arena.

LAND AND WATER FOR TOMORROW — 44 pages — free (limited quantity)

Based on experience with Land and Water Use Projects in six regions, this Handbook is designed to help civic groups to carry out similar leadership training projects. April 1967.

CHALLENGE ON THE HUDSON — 44 pages — to be available soon

A summary of the sessions of the 1966 Hudson-Mohawk River Basin Seminar on Land and Water Use, attended by 40 selected community leaders.

THE OHIO RIVER BASIN — 52 pages — postal charges

An attractive booklet, with original maps and charts, giving facts on the total economy, water and water-related land uses, and governmental agencies of the Basin. Prepared by the Inter-League Survey Committee for the Ohio River Basin. 1964.

GETTING SOMETHING DONE — 30 pages — 30¢ prepaid **10% Discount on 50 or more.*

Based on the results of four conferences conducted by the League of Women Voters of New York State to learn how, in a complex society, community and civic organizations can be effective, and to find out how conferences and meetings can be used as tools in advancing such effectiveness. 1966.

ROLE OF POLITICAL PARTIES, USA—46 pages— 35¢ prepaid

Written by journalist Joseph C. Harsch and, in September 1962, revised and updated by another newspaperman, Frederic W. Collins. It is a lively evaluation of the two-party system.

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OEF NEWS

July, 1967

The Sovereign Nations
of the
Pan American Union

PERSPECTIVES WORTH NOTING

From an address by Congressman Donald M. Fraser at the International Development Conference in Washington, D. C., February 7, 1967:

"...the conceptual formulation of foreign aid suffers because it is being stated in mistaken terms. As a consequence the problems of the developing world seem intractable and incapable of solution."

"The problem of the developing nations has been described largely in economic terms. This statement of the problem has led us into blind alleys."

"How, then, should the development problem be stated? There is increasing evidence that the major deficit in the developing nations is in their political and social structures. Until we address ourselves to this reality, we shall make little progress. We must turn our formulation around. The problem of the developing nation requires attention to the social and political structures. These must be changed to release the energies - where they exist - of individual men and women who want to improve their lot. This will lead to economic progress."

"...all of the nations of the world are in the process of development. We should perceive our international development role as an integral part of our overall concern for an improved ordering of men's affairs. In the pursuit of this we need to share experiences within and among all nations. Our attitude should be one of participating in mutual undertakings in a common cause, opening dialogues at all levels to mark out common courses of action."

From "Education for a New Kind of International Relations" by Senator John W. Fulbright in the Winter 1967 Issue of International Educational and Cultural Exchange

"It is not our needs but our capacities that have been exceeded by the modest experiments in international organization which have been undertaken in this century. The central question about the United Nations - more exactly about the international security community envisioned in the United Nations Charter - is not whether we need it but whether we are capable of making it work."

"...there is no ready answer to this dilemma, but there is hope; and that hope consists primarily in the promise of education for narrowing the gap between our needs and our capacities....What we can do, through the creative power of education, is to expand the boundaries of human wisdom, sympathy, and perception. Education is a slow-moving but a powerful force. It may not be fast enough or strong enough to save us from catastrophe, but it is the strongest force available for that purpose, and its proper place, therefore, is not at the periphery but at the center of international relations."

"The purpose of international education transcends the conventional aims of foreign policy. This purpose is nothing less than an effort to expand the scope of human moral and intellectual capacities to the extent necessary to close the fateful gap between human needs and human capacity in the nuclear age. We must try, therefore, through education, to realize something new in the world, an aim that will inspire us and challenge us to use our talents and material wealth in a new way, by persuasion rather than force, cooperatively rather than competitively, not for the purpose of gainful dominance for a nation or ideology but for the purpose of allowing every society to develop its own concepts of public decency and individual fulfillment."

Full texts of these materials are available from OEF headquarters. OEF publications listed on page 3 may also be ordered.

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE CONCLUDES WITH WASHINGTON CEREMONIES

Highlight of the April 20 Commencement exercises at the White House for the 18 graduates of Leadership Institute IV - 16 of whom were from Central America - was the presence of Mrs. Lyndon Johnson, who gave a tea after the ceremony and visited with the young women to learn of their interests and future plans.

Commencement speaker was Dr. Jose A. Mora, Secretary General of the Organization of the American States, who cited the Leadership Institute for developing "a fine nucleus of selected young Latin American women, who have been trained to work professionally -- and as volunteers -- with organizations which develop an awareness of civic rights and responsibilities among members of the community."

To the graduates, Dr. Mora said, "Approximately half the population of the area as a whole is less than 25 years old. Couple this age structure...with one of the world's fastest rates of population growth, and the importance of training these multitudes for life -- as opposed to mere existence -- in an ever-more-complex world is such as scarcely to permit of overemphasis."

"The heroes of our American past," he concluded, "are the statesmen and warriors of the revolutions which won us our freedom from European domination. I trust that I may see in you some of the heroines of a new revolution which will complete our struggle for independence, winning us freedom from hunger, disease, and ignorance, so that ours may be a truly 'new' world."

CENTRAL AMERICAN WORKSHOP IV ADDS INNOVATION TO CIVIC LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Now an annual activity, the Central American regional conferences have involved more than 200 women leaders in developing techniques for citizen participation. This year's Workshop, held in San Jose, Costa Rica April 19-30 following the Leadership Institute graduation, featured a number of firsts for OEF.

It was the first occasion on which an OEF co-sponsor was a formal educational institution in Central America - the University of Costa Rica. It was the first occasion on which graduates of a Leadership Institute were immediately involved with selected leaders from their home countries to plan applications of their training. And it was the first occasion on which the conference participants divided themselves into country teams and elected on-going projects for the coming year.

The projects have unusual merit. They fall into two categories. One is civic education through existing educational channels - radio schools (Honduras), adult education or literacy programs (Panama), secondary and primary school curricula (Guatemala), and the strengthening of civic organizations (Nicaragua). Another category of interest is in the coordination of voluntary efforts and the orientation and training of volunteers (Costa Rica). The Salvadorean group hopes to find a way to work with trade unions, some of whose leaders have manifested an interest in the civic aspect of their workers' education programs.

The year long projects will be under the general supervision of OEF's Central American Field Director, Dra. Graciela Quan. A reporting and evaluation conference is planned for June 1968.

Educational consultants and government personnel have lauded the Central American national civic projects as an outstanding educational innovation; they have especially cited its value in reorienting the Institute graduates to their home communities' needs and providing for immediate involvement with existing organizations. (Citizens from other countries who spend extensive training periods in the United States all too often face severe problems of adjustment and re-orientation upon return to their home countries.) The OEF "Leader-Team" concept offers promising opportunities for extension of training and applications of service. It will be employed in future OEF conferences.

OEF CO-SPONSORS SECOND NATIONAL BOLIVIAN CONFERENCE

From Costa Rica, OEF program consultants and volunteer advisers journeyed to Cordoba, Argentina, where the first national Argentine training conference, described in an earlier Newsletter, came to successful fruition. From there, they traveled to Cochabamba, Bolivia, where the second national Bolivian conference - co-sponsored with CONIF (a national council of women's organizations) - took place from May 24 to June 3.

Twenty-eight delegates and 75 observers participated in a workshop on Women's Responsibility for National Development. Delegates from more than a dozen communities brought to the Workshop their studies of the community problems which participants at the first national seminar last year had considered to be most pressing, analyzing the main causes of these problems, what had been done about them in the past, and offering new solutions and next steps. Their panel presentations on basic education, nutrition, child protection, environmental health, and the development of small industries were supplemented by presentations by experts which placed the experience of the delegates in broader perspective.

An unprecedented accomplishment for the Bolivian planners was the raising of all funds for the meeting from local businesses. Even so, the major significance of the meeting lay elsewhere.

"The Second National Bolivian Seminar was an experience of the first magnitude," said Dr. Caroline Ware, OEF's program consultant who participated on the advisory team and assisted OEF Field Director Mildred Mersereau at the meeting. "For the Bolivians it broke new ground in the process of social integration. The first seminar last year represented a great step in that it brought together for the first time women from all over the country on the basis of their common identity and responsibility as Bolivians. The second constituted a veritable leap, across gulfs and barriers between social classes and groups, much more significant and harder to bridge than those of distance. The mere fact of such an encounter was enormously significant."

The delegates recommended that future national conferences be held every other year, with area conferences in the intervening years. The next Leadership Institute, starting in September at Boston University, will enroll ten Bolivian participants and thus strengthen leadership resources for these activities.

PUBLICATIONS MEAN PROGRESS

As an educational organization, OEF places prime emphasis on training materials specially adapted for use in the Latin American countries. Through a variety of sources of financial support, several publications have been launched this year.

The Manual Para Directores de Organizaciones is a new handbook in Spanish, including simplified parliamentary procedures and suggesting guidelines and techniques for leaders of voluntary organizations. It was translated into Spanish by the members of Leadership Institute III. Cost of printing was underwritten by Interchange Foundation.

A new Datos (Facts about OEF) to acquaint Latin Americans with OEF's purpose and history as well as its services has been issued, paid for by a small group of friends. Analysis de la Communidad - a manual on how to analyze community needs - has been accepted for publication by the Regional Technical Aids Center in Mexico City, the publications arm for Spanish materials of the Agency for International Development. It will be distributed by AID missions as well as by OEF.

A continuing publication, also made possible by AID, is Intercambio, a quarterly newsletter in Spanish to provide exchange of information between individuals and organizations in Latin America engaged in civic education and development.

A voters service manual, also in Spanish and now in trial use, is awaiting funds for publication. In preparation is a seminar workbook, based on techniques used in OEF training workshops.

Acknowledging

with grateful appreciation

your very kind and thoughtful

expression of sympathy

1965-1966

Sears Foundation gave $4000.00 to the LWVUS Educ. Fund - Natl returns 5% of the 4000.00 for Operations expense - So LWV of Tex got $3800.00 for publishing TC Review

(See Jan '66 for more details)

Overseas Education Fund

OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

"Development and social reform must go hand in hand."—*David Rockefeller*

"It is important for us to do everything we can to help women develop their potential for leadership and responsibility in nations that are desperately in need of their talents."—*Senator Abraham Ribicoff*

"The challenge, then, is the bringing of more citizens into participation in democracy, not merely as voters . . . they must find ways to bring community needs to the points of power."—*Arturo Morales-Carrion*

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first . . . **TO CONVEY A CONCEPT**

then . . . **TO TRANSFER TECHNIQUES OF ORGANIZATION**

in order to arrive at the ultimate goal . . . **EFFECTIVE CITIZEN ACTION**

Some applications of OEF training . . .

TO CONVEY A CONCEPT

How are the concepts and processes basic to democratic societies developed and put into practice?

. . . *A secondary school principal* in a *Salvadorean* town inaugurates a student government program to introduce young people to the structure, procedures and challenges of democratic institutions, so that they will feel a part of their school and their community . . .

. . . *Two Bolivian women*, members of the Alliance for Citizen Orientation, embark on a campaign of civic education, preceding a vital presidential election, offering to the public a series of non-partisan lectures describing electoral laws, and informing voters of their rights and obligations . . .

. . . *Two thousand parents and teachers* from all over *Brazil*, sparked by the dynamism of a young educator and community leader, study and discuss together as members of The National School, a nationwide adult-education association, what they must do to help their children grow into responsible, productive citizens . . .

TO TRANSFER THE TECHNIQUES OF ORGANIZATION

What can be done to help people work together efficiently and democratically?

. . . *In Chile, a young woman,* employed by a community development agency sponsored by a trade union, travels throughout the country teaching community level workers how to develop organizations with a purpose, how to motivate membership, how to share the task of leadership, how to delegate responsibility . . .

. . . *In Argentina, a volunteer* increases the effectiveness of local voluntary organizations in one of the country's largest cities, by serving as coordinator of a newly formed clearinghouse, through which independent groups can exchange and obtain information essential to their successful operation . . .

. . . *In Ecuador, two government employees,* one working for the national housing agency, the other employed by her country's community development office—are in charge of training programs for their respective divisions, instructing those who will in turn train others in the newest methods of working with local groups . . .

TO ARRIVE AT EFFECTIVE CITIZEN ACTION

What are the results when men and women carry out their responsibilities as citizens?

. . . *Non-partisan voting information* of all kinds appears in the *Central American* press preceding national and local elections, furnished and inspired by organized groups of women, stimulated through OEF workshops to an action program—to build an informed and functioning electorate . . .

. . . *An unprecedented successful fund-raising campaign* for the YMCA in *Quito, Ecuador,* organized and run by a young woman dedicated to improving community facilities, enables the "Y" to continue expansion of its program . . .

. . . *A widely disseminated declaration* is issued by the Union of Women Citizens of *Colombia,* an association founded to defend democratic principles, calling on the country's political parties to develop a national conscience and subordinate private interests to the national welfare . . .

OEF Methods . . .

THE OEF LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE AND LATIN AMERICAN INTERN PROGRAM

The Institute Year

OEF's Leadership Institute presents a select group of Latin American and U.S. women with a unique opportunity for challenging old ideas, considering new concepts and understanding the multiple forces at work in the community, on both theoretical and practical levels. A two-year, multi-phased program, the Institute prepares emerging leaders to work with organizations, professional or voluntary, private or governmental, concerned with education for citizenship and with community development. This year's group of sixteen Latin American and four U.S. women is the third since the Institute's inception in 1963. Each year new refinements, shifts in emphasis and adaptation of program content have been made . . .

TO CONVEY CONCEPTS: On the campus of Pembroke-Brown University, for an academic year, Institute members are part of a COLLOQUIUM ON THE CHANGING AMERICAS, an intensive review of social, economic and political change throughout the Americas, and a TECHNIQUE SEMINAR, "Citizen Action through Voluntary Organizations." Academic and organizational experts present their views; extensive discussion and examination provide the milieu in which intellectual growth may occur. Observation of all aspects of community life—civic organizations, state and local government, the family—relate theory to a living context. . .

TO TRANSFER TECHNIQUES: OEF believes the individual must personally EXPERIENCE THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS. . . in classroom discussion and as part of the campus community; through field placement as a working member of an organization closely related to her future work; and as an active, associate member of a local League of Women Voters. Through review, analysis and use, the participants test and evaluate techniques and materials—and develop their own . . .

The Intern Year

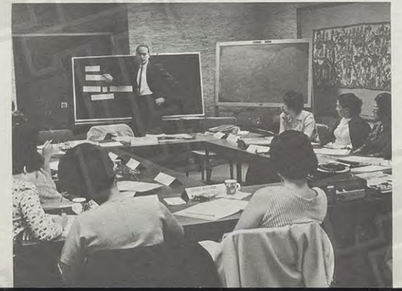
TO MOVE TO CIVIC ACTION: Each Latin American Institute member is sponsored by a local organization or agency in her home country. Despite a diversity of professions among the group, all of the members have the means for EFFECTIVE USE OF TRAINING within their supporting organizations. Through these organizations they introduce to others new methods of organizing groups directed toward a common goal. As part of their daily occupation they share their knowledge of new processes of group and individual dynamics. They apply new perceptions of the role that can be played by responsible citizens, associations and institutions in influencing the growth and development of community and nation. Guidance by OEF field staff during the second year reinforces the Interns' work. The participants come together at mid-year and final workshops in a Latin American country and in Puerto Rico to continue the exchange of ideas and experience and the inter-country relationships already established. Throughout the year—and continuing beyond—the Intern experiments, adapts, reaches out into the community—is actively ENGAGED IN CIVIC AFFAIRS.

TRAINING PROJECTS IN THE UNITED STATES

OEF Methods . . .

The Seminar

The Seminar, now approaching its seventh year, is a two week introduction to that difficult and elusive task: DEVELOPING THE LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL of Latin American women anxious to alert their fellow citizens to the importance of civic action at all levels. Developed by OEF at the request of the Department of State, since 1961 the Seminar has been offered to 78 Latin American women recipients of Leader Grants. U.S. women have taken part in the Seminars as well. The fourteen grantees who attended the Fall 1965 Seminar, "The Citizen and her Community," came from Central America, Bolivia and Peru. Following the Seminar proper, they were able to widen their experience and add new perspective to their observation by extensive travel throughout the United States under the direction of the Governmental Affairs Institute.



Short term projects can only be a preamble to the long hard challenge of shaping the forces of change towards democratic, human ends. But OEF believes they are a sound means . . .

TO CONVEY A CONCEPT to women who may be working together for the first time with people from other countries, and thus to discover not only that they share problems and aspirations, but can seek solution without regard to national frontiers. A cooperative spirit, a willingness to hear other points of view, and opportunity to see the United States as it really is, are important first steps to hemispheric unity . . .

The IACW Project

A new venture for OEF, this short term project was undertaken in March 1966 at the invitation of and in cooperation with the Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States. Sixteen participants, selected from the ten OAS member nations of the Caribbean region, were eager to see HOW U.S. WOMEN HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO SOCIAL ACTION by taking part in government affairs, cooperating in voluntary civic movements and collaborating with agencies and organizations involved in community development. OEF's role was to plan, organize, staff and carry through the three week field portion of the project, following six weeks of academic study and observation of community facilities in Puerto Rico, arranged through the University of Puerto Rico and the Technical Training Division of the OAS.

TO TRANSFER TECHNIQUES by multiplying the numbers of women offered a chance to hear the testimony of experts, to see government and private programs in action, to discuss in a structured way what may be transferred and adapted to their own localities. Establishing contact with others who have preceded them in OEF training courses or other projects enlarges the nucleus of active, knowledgeable, dedicated women transmitting to their compatriots what they have learned . . .

TOWARDS CIVIC ACTION through renewing commitments to community work, through originating program ideas in existing organizations, and often by developing new organizations geared to citizen participation in government . . .

OEF Methods . . .

THROUGH A REGIONAL APPROACH

Central America—A Five Year Plan: The geographic situation, the size of the countries, the economic and political integration already underway in Central America constitute a sound basis for a regional approach. In 1964 OEF devised A PLAN OF ACTION leading *1) from awakening an interest among women in the area in promoting civic-political education; 2) to offering short courses in the techniques of organization; 3) towards the formation of civic-oriented, functioning organizations; 4) to culminate in national and regional Centers of Civic Education, motivated, staffed and directed by Central Americans.* Working with volunteers, civic associations and strategic groups—social workers, teachers, labor union members, wives of professional men, and family education experts—OEF's resident field representative provides advisory services, technical assistance and training courses which carry out the goals of the program.

The Regional Workshop: First proposed in 1964, the Central American Workshops are a direct result of the impact of OEF's program in the region. Developed and sponsored jointly by OEF and local organizations, each annual Workshop has progressed in the degree of both organizational and financial responsibility assumed by the local groups and in the level of the content. The first—*in El Salvador*—dealt with motivation; the second—*in Costa Rica*—involved study and planning; the third—*in Panama*—offered technical training. A fourth—*in Guatemala*—is already contemplated for 1967.

OEF programs in the field . . .

AND IN-COUNTRY PROGRAMS

Since 1956 OEF activity in South America has been constant and expanding. A traveling field representative counsels and trains individuals and groups. THE NATIONAL WORKSHOP has become an important stage in the building of voluntary institutions formed as vehicles for citizen action.

The Colombian Workshop In the fall of 1965 OEF was called upon to give technical assistance to the Union of Women Citizens, a viable group with a long history of contact with OEF. Determined to train themselves to serve their country, the UCC members chose VOTERS' SERVICE as the Workshop's subject. Women from all over Colombia researched and studied electoral laws and other pertinent information and received training in the techniques of communicating to the citizenry the importance of their vote, as well as non-partisan voting information.

The Bolivian Workshop Early in 1966 OEF received a plea for help from CONIF, a confederation of women's groups anxious to broaden their membership base—to reach out beyond their city, and their familiar social and economic contacts. The theme, "WOMEN'S RESPONSIBILITY IN TODAY'S COMMUNITY," was chosen by CONIF. In the co-sponsored meeting—planning, organization, training sessions, financial responsibility—all phases of work were shared. The result was a new feeling of national unity and purpose, an achievement both the Bolivians and OEF are eager to build on in the future.

CONVEY A CONCEPT by reaching a wider cross section of the populace. There are no language barriers, travel expenses for participants are minimal, social and economic lines are more readily crossed . . .

TRANSFER TECHNIQUES by utilizing as workshop leaders the multiplying number of OEF trainees: Institute and Seminar graduates; participants in earlier local and national workshops . . .

PROMOTE CIVIC ACTION by introducing new dimensions to the world of the citizen volunteer, enlarging the ranks of the skilled, emphasizing realistic planning, and most important, encouraging cooperative action . . .

THROUGH SERVICES TO MEN AND WOMEN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

OEF assistance, while concentrated in Latin America, is requested by and offered to citizens from all over the world. In the United States, through personal interviews and specially arranged tours, and abroad through volunteer consultant support, correspondence, and publications, OEF maintains contacts in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Middle East. By these means we continue to offer information, technical aid, and most important, encouragement to citizens in their continuing struggle to achieve and exercise their rights and responsibilities.

In 1965-66, volunteers at OEF headquarters briefed 73 men and women from 31 countries outside of Latin America on the structure, function and operation of the United States government, supplemented by tours of Capitol Hill and governmental agencies. The development of the League of Women Voters as an effective, non-partisan political instrument in the United States is also of unceasing interest to these visitors, committed to strengthening their own organized efforts in citizen education.

Correspondence is personal and individualized. Whenever possible, traveling OEF volunteers lend support and add depth to written communication.

Publications, written by experts, are expository or technical. Among those available are *New Patterns for Women* (English and Spanish), *Handbook for Leaders of Organizations* (newly revised, English), *United Nations Pocket Reference* (Spanish), and several mimeographed pamphlets on organizational techniques. Soon to be published are a new Spanish edition of the *Handbook for Leaders* as well as a series on *Community Analysis* and a *Voter's Guide*, also in Spanish.

In other areas of the world OEF continues . . .

To **CONVEY A CONCEPT**
To **TRANSFER TECHNIQUES**
To **ARRIVE AT CITIZEN ACTION**

TOWARD EFFECTIVE CITIZEN ACTION

In Latin America today, through OEF training programs developed since 1961—

People—trained, dedicated, motivated—are working . . .

35 OEF Leadership Institute graduates
78 U.S. Seminar grantees
16 OEF-IACW workshop trainees
68 Central American regional workshop delegates
124 South American in-country workshop participants
1632 Cursillo-trained members of community organizations
665 Cursillo-trainees from courses directed by Institute graduates

Organizations—civic, voluntary, educational—are cooperating or consulting with the Overseas Education Fund . . .

195 in Latin America
225 in other areas around the world

People Who Invest in the Overseas Education Fund

● CORPORATIONS & CORPORATE FOUNDATIONS

American & Foreign Power Company, Inc.
The Andreas Foundation
The Council for Latin America, Inc.
Crown Zellerbach Foundation
Esso Education Foundation
The Gillette Company
Grace (W. R.) Foundation, Inc.
K.S.M. Products, Inc.
The Latin American Information Committee, Inc.
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Price Waterhouse & Co. (partners)
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The Sperry & Hutchinson Foundation, Inc.
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Stone & Youngberg
Levi Strauss Foundation
United Fruit Company Foundation, Inc.
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CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ARE DEDUCTIBLE FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES.

● FOUNDATIONS

The Andersen (Elmer L. & Eleanor) Foundation
The Arent Charitable Foundation
The Asia Foundation
Compton (Randolph) Trust
The Ivy Fund, Inc.
The Langmuir (Dean) Foundation
The Lasbury Foundation, Inc.
Lehman (Adele & Arthur) Foundation
Levin (Ezra) Charitable Trust
Low (Madeleine M.) Fund
MacKinnon (Christina) Trust
Merrill (Charles E.) Trust
Picker (Evelyn) Foundation
The Rabinowitz (Sidney H.) Family Foundation
Rockefeller Brothers Fund
The Rockefeller Foundation
The Scherman Foundation, Inc.
The Stetten Foundation, Inc.

● INDIVIDUAL AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

126 gifts received—$28,086.34

● PROGRAM GRANTS

Agency for International Development
Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
Organization of American States Program of Technical Cooperation

People who believe in the democratic process and are convinced that the attitudes inherent in that process can be acquired are investing in the Overseas Education Fund. We need, we welcome, and we put to use this kind of venture capital—capital committed to a difficult and elusive task. OEF's work as a voluntary, non-profit organization is based on money ventured on an idea—that we can help women develop their potential for leadership and responsibility.

Investment of women hours, pilot projects, materials, and money in Latin America is beginning to yield impressive dividends. These dividends are now being paid in the form of a growing nucleus of trained, dedicated, and highly motivated Latin American young women who are influencing a constantly widening circle of individuals and organizations in the direction of cooperative action to achieve social, economic, and political change through responsible and increasingly effective citizen action.

We believe the lessons we have learned from our recent concentrated efforts in Latin America, and the backlog of past experience in Japan and India and in Europe should enable us to adapt our methods and techniques to the benefit of women elsewhere. We are eager to do some exploratory work, launch some pilot projects. To do so and at the same time to maintain the momentum of our commitments in Latin America we shall hope for more capital ventured.

Martha Briscoe

Mrs. John D. Briscoe
President

OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

July 1, 1965 - June 30, 1966

INCOME		
Designated Fund Balance from Prior Year		$ 13,635.00
Designated Contributions & Grants		34,488.75
Less: Designated Income Deferred to Future Period		(17,146.79)
Undesignated Contributions and Grants		74,287.59
Reimbursements for Program Services		189,626.83
Publications (Gross)		4,491.79
Interest and Dividends		2,154.79
From Reserve Funds		18,134.55
	Total	$319,672.51
EXPENSE *		
Latin American Programs		
Leadership Institute & Intern Program		$229,886.27
Central American Program & Workshop		28,589.96
Other Latin American Seminars & Projects		17,615.52
Malaysia Foreign Visitor & Other Programs		3,300.49
Headquarters Program Services (non Latin American)		
Publications, Briefings & Advisory Services		14,641.13
Organizational Development		25,639.14
	Total	$319,672.51

*Includes distribution by audit of administrative and program coordination costs—$90,618.65.

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in order to arrive at the ultimate goal . . . **EFFECTIVE CITIZEN ACTION**

Some applications of OEF training . . .

TO CONVEY A CONCEPT

How are the concepts and processes basic to democratic societies developed and put into practice?

. . . *A secondary school principal* in a *Salvadorean* town inaugurates a student government program to introduce young people to the structure, procedures and challenges of democratic institutions, so that they will feel a part of their school and their community . . .

. . . *Two Bolivian women,* members of the Alliance for Citizen Orientation, embark on a campaign of civic education, preceding a vital presidential election, offering to the public a series of non-partisan lectures describing electoral laws, and informing voters of their rights and obligations . . .

. . . *Two thousand parents and teachers* from all over *Brazil,* sparked by the dynamism of a young educator and community leader, study and discuss together as members of The National School, a nationwide adult-education association, what they must do to help their children grow into responsible, productive citizens . . .

TO TRANSFER THE TECHNIQUES OF ORGANIZATION

What can be done to help people work together efficiently and democratically?

. . . *In Chile, a young woman,* employed by a community development agency sponsored by a trade union, travels throughout the country teaching community level workers how to develop organizations with a purpose, how to motivate membership, how to share the task of leadership, how to delegate responsibility . . .

. . . *In Argentina, a volunteer* increases the effectiveness of local voluntary organizations in one of the country's largest cities, by serving as coordinator of a newly formed clearinghouse, through which independent groups can exchange and obtain information essential to their successful operation . . .

. . . *In Ecuador, two government employees,* one working for the national housing agency, the other employed by her country's community development office—are in charge of training programs for their respective divisions, instructing those who will in turn train others in the newest methods of working with local groups . . .

TO ARRIVE AT EFFECTIVE CITIZEN ACTION

What are the results when men and women carry out their responsibilities as citizens?

. . . *Non-partisan voting information* of all kinds appears in the *Central American* press preceding national and local elections, furnished and inspired by organized groups of women, stimulated through OEF workshops to an action program—to build an informed and functioning electorate . . .

. . . *An unprecedented successful fund-raising campaign* for the YMCA in *Quito, Ecuador,* organized and run by a young woman dedicated to improving community facilities, enables the "Y" to continue expansion of its program . . .

. . . *A widely disseminated declaration* is issued by the Union of Women Citizens of *Colombia,* an association founded to defend democratic principles, calling on the country's political parties to develop a national conscience and subordinate private interests to the national welfare . . .

OEF Methods . . .

THE OEF LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE AND LATIN AMERICAN INTERN PROGRAM

The Institute Year

OEF's Leadership Institute presents a select group of Latin American and U.S. women with a unique opportunity for challenging old ideas, considering new concepts and understanding the multiple forces at work in the community, on both theoretical and practical levels. A two-year, multi-phased program, the Institute prepares emerging leaders to work with organizations, professional or voluntary, private or governmental, concerned with education for citizenship and with community development. This year's group of sixteen Latin American and four U.S. women is the third since the Institute's inception in 1963. Each year new refinements, shifts in emphasis and adaptation of program content have been made . . .

TO CONVEY CONCEPTS: On the campus of Pembroke-Brown University, for an academic year, Institute members are part of a COLLOQUIUM ON THE CHANGING AMERICAS, an intensive review of social, economic and political change throughout the Americas, and a TECHNIQUE SEMINAR, "Citizen Action through Voluntary Organizations." Academic and organizational experts present their views; extensive discussion and examination provide the milieu in which intellectual growth may occur. Observation of all aspects of community life—civic organizations, state and local government, the family—relate theory to a living context. . .

TO TRANSFER TECHNIQUES: OEF believes the individual must personally EXPERIENCE THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS. . . in classroom discussion and as part of the campus community; through field placement as a working member of an organization closely related to her future work; and as an active, associate member of a local League of Women Voters. Through review, analysis and use, the participants test and evaluate techniques and materials—and develop their own . . .

The Intern Year

TO MOVE TO CIVIC ACTION: Each Latin American Institute member is sponsored by a local organization or agency in her home country. Despite a diversity of professions among the group, all of the members have the means for EFFECTIVE USE OF TRAINING within their supporting organizations. Through these organizations they introduce to others new methods of organizing groups directed toward a common goal. As part of their daily occupation they share their knowledge of new processes of group and individual dynamics. They apply new perceptions of the role that can be played by responsible citizens, associations and institutions in influencing the growth and development of community and nation. Guidance by OEF field staff during the second year reinforces the Interns' work. The participants come together at mid-year and final workshops in a Latin American country and in Puerto Rico to continue the exchange of ideas and experience and the inter-country relationships already established. Throughout the year—and continuing beyond—the Intern experiments, adapts, reaches out into the community—is actively ENGAGED IN CIVIC AFFAIRS.

TRAINING PROJECTS IN THE UNITED STATES

OEF Methods . . .

The Seminar

The Seminar, now approaching its seventh year, is a two week introduction to that difficult and elusive task: DEVELOPING THE LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL of Latin American women anxious to alert their fellow citizens to the importance of civic action at all levels. Developed by OEF at the request of the Department of State, since 1961 the Seminar has been offered to 78 Latin American women recipients of Leader Grants. U.S. women have taken part in the Seminars as well. The fourteen grantees who attended the Fall 1965 Seminar, "The Citizen and her Community," came from Central America, Bolivia and Peru. Following the Seminar proper, they were able to widen their experience and add new perspective to their observation by extensive travel throughout the United States under the direction of the Governmental Affairs Institute.

Short term projects can only be a preamble to the long hard challenge of shaping the forces of change towards democratic, human ends. But OEF believes they are a sound means . . .

TO CONVEY A CONCEPT to women who may be working together for the first time with people from other countries, and thus to discover not only that they share problems and aspirations, but can seek solution without regard to national frontiers. A cooperative spirit, a willingness to hear other points of view, and opportunity to see the United States as it really is, are important first steps to hemispheric unity . . .

The IACW Project

A new venture for OEF, this short term project was undertaken in March 1966 at the invitation of and in cooperation with the Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States. Sixteen participants, selected from the ten OAS member nations of the Caribbean region, were eager to see HOW U.S. WOMEN HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO SOCIAL ACTION by taking part in government affairs, cooperating in voluntary civic movements and collaborating with agencies and organizations involved in community development. OEF's role was to plan, organize, staff and carry through the three week field portion of the project, following six weeks of academic study and observation of community facilities in Puerto Rico, arranged through the University of Puerto Rico and the Technical Training Division of the OAS.

TO TRANSFER TECHNIQUES by multiplying the numbers of women offered a chance to hear the testimony of experts, to see government and private programs in action, to discuss in a structured way what may be transferred and adapted to their own localities. Establishing contact with others who have preceded them in OEF training courses or other projects enlarges the nucleus of active, knowledgeable, dedicated women transmitting to their compatriots what they have learned . . .

TOWARDS CIVIC ACTION through renewing commitments to community work, through originating program ideas in existing organizations, and often by developing new organizations geared to citizen participation in government . . .

THROUGH A REGIONAL APPROACH

Central America—A Five Year Plan: The geographic situation, the size of the countries, the economic and political integration already underway in Central America constitute a sound basis for a regional approach. In 1964 OEF devised A PLAN OF ACTION leading *1) from awakening an interest among women in the area in promoting civic-political education; 2) to offering short courses in the techniques of organization; 3) towards the formation of civic-oriented, functioning organizations; 4) to culminate in national and regional Centers of Civic Education, motivated, staffed and directed by Central Americans.* Working with volunteers, civic associations and strategic groups—social workers, teachers, labor union members, wives of professional men, and family education experts—OEF's resident field representative provides advisory services, technical assistance and training courses which carry out the goals of the program.

The Regional Workshop: First proposed in 1964, the Central American Workshops are a direct result of the impact of OEF's program in the region. Developed and sponsored jointly by OEF and local organizations, each annual Workshop has progressed in the degree of both organizational and financial responsibility assumed by the local groups and in the level of the content. The first—*in El Salvador*—dealt with motivation; the second—*in Costa Rica*—involved study and planning; the third—*in Panama*—offered technical training. A fourth—*in Guatemala*—is already contemplated for 1967.

AND IN-COUNTRY PROGRAMS

Since 1956 OEF activity in South America has been constant and expanding. A traveling field representative counsels and trains individuals and groups. THE NATIONAL WORKSHOP has become an important stage in the building of voluntary institutions formed as vehicles for citizen action.

The Colombian Workshop In the fall of 1965 OEF was called upon to give technical assistance to the Union of Women Citizens, a viable group with a long history of contact with OEF. Determined to train themselves to serve their country, the UCC members chose VOTERS' SERVICE as the Workshop's subject. Women from all over Colombia researched and studied electoral laws and other pertinent information and received training in the techniques of communicating to the citizenry the importance of their vote, as well as non-partisan voting information.

The Bolivian Workshop Early in 1966 OEF received a plea for help from CONIF, a confederation of women's groups anxious to broaden their membership base—to reach out beyond their city, and their familiar social and economic contacts. The theme, "WOMEN'S RESPONSIBILITY IN TODAY'S COMMUNITY," was chosen by CONIF. In the co-sponsored meeting—planning, organization, training sessions, financial responsibility—all phases of work were shared. The result was a new feeling of national unity and purpose, an achievement both the Bolivians and OEF are eager to build on in the future.

CONVEY A CONCEPT by reaching a wider cross section of the populace. There are no language barriers, travel expenses for participants are minimal, social and economic lines are more readily crossed . . .

TRANSFER TECHNIQUES by utilizing as workshop leaders the multiplying number of OEF trainees: Institute and Seminar graduates; participants in earlier local and national workshops . . .

PROMOTE CIVIC ACTION by introducing new dimensions to the world of the citizen volunteer, enlarging the ranks of the skilled, emphasizing realistic planning, and most important, encouraging cooperative action . . .

THROUGH SERVICES TO MEN AND WOMEN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

OEF assistance, while concentrated in Latin America, is requested by and offered to citizens from all over the world. In the United States, through personal interviews and specially arranged tours, and abroad through volunteer consultant support, correspondence, and publications, OEF maintains contacts in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Middle East. By these means we continue to offer information, technical aid, and most important, encouragement to citizens in their continuing struggle to achieve and exercise their rights and responsibilities.

In 1965-66, volunteers at OEF headquarters briefed 73 men and women from 31 countries outside of Latin America on the structure, function and operation of the United States government, supplemented by tours of Capitol Hill and governmental agencies. The development of the League of Women Voters as an effective, non-partisan political instrument in the United States is also of unceasing interest to these visitors, committed to strengthening their own organized efforts in citizen education.

Correspondence is personal and individualized. Whenever possible, traveling OEF volunteers lend support and add depth to written communication.

Publications, written by experts, are expository or technical. Among those available are *New Patterns for Women* (English and Spanish), *Handbook for Leaders of Organizations* (newly revised, English), *United Nations Pocket Reference* (Spanish), and several mimeographed pamphlets on organizational techniques. Soon to be published are a new Spanish edition of the *Handbook for Leaders* as well as a series on *Community Analysis* and a *Voter's Guide*, also in Spanish.

In other areas of the world OEF continues . . .

To **CONVEY A CONCEPT**
To **TRANSFER TECHNIQUES**
To **ARRIVE AT CITIZEN ACTION**

TOWARD EFFECTIVE CITIZEN ACTION

In Latin America today, through OEF training programs developed since 1961—

People—trained, dedicated, motivated—are working . . .

35 OEF Leadership Institute graduates
78 U.S. Seminar grantees
16 OEF-IACW workshop trainees
68 Central American regional workshop delegates
124 South American in-country workshop participants
1632 Cursillo-trained members of community organizations
665 Cursillo-trainees from courses directed by Institute graduates

Organizations—civic, voluntary, educational—are cooperating or consulting with the Overseas Education Fund . . .

195 in Latin America
225 in other areas around the world

People Who Invest in the Overseas Education Fund

● CORPORATIONS & CORPORATE FOUNDATIONS

American & Foreign Power Company, Inc.
The Andreas Foundation
The Council for Latin America, Inc.
Crown Zellerbach Foundation
Esso Education Foundation
The Gillette Company
Grace (W. R.) Foundation, Inc.
K.S.M. Products, Inc.
The Latin American Information Committee, Inc.
Mobil, International
Paladin Corporation of New Jersey
Price Waterhouse & Co. (partners)
Richards, Nodine, Gilkey & Fite
The Sears-Roebuck Foundation (Intl.)
The Sherwin-Williams Co.
Singer Sewing Machine Company
The Sperry & Hutchinson Foundation, Inc.
Standard Oil Company N. J.
Stone & Youngberg
Levi Strauss Foundation
United Fruit Company Foundation, Inc.
Wolf (Blanche & Frank) Foundation

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ARE DEDUCTIBLE FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES.

● FOUNDATIONS

The Andersen (Elmer L. & Eleanor) Foundation
The Arent Charitable Foundation
The Asia Foundation
Compton (Randolph) Trust
The Ivy Fund, Inc.
The Langmuir (Dean) Foundation
The Lasbury Foundation, Inc.
Lehman (Adele & Arthur) Foundation
Levin (Ezra) Charitable Trust
Low (Madeleine M.) Fund
MacKinnon (Christina) Trust
Merrill (Charles E.) Trust
Picker (Evelyn) Foundation
The Rabinowitz (Sidney H.) Family Foundation
Rockefeller Brothers Fund
The Rockefeller Foundation
The Scherman Foundation, Inc.
The Stetten Foundation, Inc.

● INDIVIDUAL AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

126 gifts received—$28,086.34

● PROGRAM GRANTS

Agency for International Development
Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
Organization of American States Program of Technical Cooperation

People who believe in the democratic process and are convinced that the attitudes inherent in that process can be acquired are investing in the Overseas Education Fund. We need, we welcome, and we put to use this kind of venture capital—capital committed to a difficult and elusive task. OEF's work as a voluntary, non-profit organization is based on money ventured on an idea—that we can help women develop their potential for leadership and responsibility.

Investment of women hours, pilot projects, materials, and money in Latin America is beginning to yield impressive dividends. These dividends are now being paid in the form of a growing nucleus of trained, dedicated, and highly motivated Latin American young women who are influencing a constantly widening circle of individuals and organizations in the direction of cooperative action to achieve social, economic, and political change through responsible and increasingly effective citizen action.

We believe the lessons we have learned from our recent concentrated efforts in Latin America, and the backlog of past experience in Japan and India and in Europe should enable us to adapt our methods and techniques to the benefit of women elsewhere. We are eager to do some exploratory work, launch some pilot projects. To do so and at the same time to maintain the momentum of our commitments in Latin America we shall hope for more capital ventured.

Martha Briscoe

Mrs. John D. Briscoe
President

OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

July 1, 1965 - June 30, 1966

INCOME

Designated Fund Balance from Prior Year		$ 13,635.00
Designated Contributions & Grants		34,488.75
Less: Designated Income Deferred to Future Period		(17,146.79)
Undesignated Contributions and Grants		74,287.59
Reimbursements for Program Services		189,626.83
Publications (Gross)		4,491.79
Interest and Dividends		2,154.79
From Reserve Funds		18,134.55
	Total	$319,672.51

EXPENSE *

Latin American Programs		
Leadership Institute & Intern Program		$229,886.27
Central American Program & Workshop		28,589.96
Other Latin American Seminars & Projects		17,615.52
Malaysia Foreign Visitor & Other Programs		3,300.49
Headquarters Program Services (non Latin American)		
Publications, Briefings & Advisory Services		14,641.13
Organizational Development		25,639.14
	Total	$319,672.51

*Includes distribution by audit of administrative and program coordination costs—$90,618.65.

I am enclosing a newspaper clipping giving an account of Mrs. Eugene Smith's visit in Amarillo following her visit to Russia sponsored by the CSF. She gave some very interesting reports of the trip and I found her personally delightful.

October 31, 1967

Mrs. William M. Christopherson
League of Women Voters Education Fund
[redacted]

Dear Mrs. Christopherson:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter to Mrs. Joor concerning activities of local Leagues in Texas in work on the China item in their communities. I am sorry that I had nothing to add to the information that Mrs. Joor sent you.

I feel certain that something newsworthy will come out of the Area Conferences next month. A copy of this letter is being mailed to Mrs. Casperson who is to serve as conference leader at the West Texas meeting and who is also Field Service consultant for the Midland and Odessa Leagues both of which will be represented there. The Odessa League [illegible] hostess. I know Mrs. Casperson will be especially alert to find out what the West Texas Leagues are doing or planning to do in this field and that she will report this information so we can relay it to you.

I enjoyed seeing you very much in Oklahoma City and in St. Louis.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Herbert C. Martin
[redacted]

cc- Mrs. Joor
Mrs. Casperson

bc- Nolle

Beulah, Mrs. C. added a handwritten note on my copy expressing interest in learning what success Midland & Odessa have in filling speaking requests (on China). Ruth, would it be expedient to ask each conference to report directly to you (cc to Peggy and myself) relating what they learn about LL work on the item? Crisis in the Cities, also? I am thinking it might mean more to Mrs. C. to get one letter including all information than to get it in bits and pieces from different board members.

Is Martin, Rolle
Ruth, can you give her more help than
Lucile? RJ

OCT 23 RECD

October 19, 1967

Mrs. William M. Christopherson
League of Women Voters Education Fund
[redacted]

Dear Mrs. Christopherson:

In reply to your call for a bit of help, you may know more than I do about what is happening in the Texas Leagues about the China Item. When reporting on national Program most of the chairmen forget about the state Board -- a problem that we ought to be able to solve through our field service. So most of the information that we have is gleaneddfrom the local VOTERS.

One League that you did not mention is Houston. They said they had sent in a report in August. They have an ambitious program st up, and I think this has been a result of the China Conference. They are now in the midst of a six week seminar, conducted once each week by Mr. Arnold Mercado, a teacher of Asian History in a private school in Houston. The attendance has been about 30 which may be about as many as could be expected to attend a six week course.

They have also set up for early spring a program with the help of the National Alumni Program of Columbia University.

I am enclosing a page from the Waco, Texas VOTER which lists their activities concerning the China study.

I think it is worth noting that the Leagues which are working the hardest on this item are those Leagues having representatives at the Conference.

We are holding Area Conferences in November and have scheduled one hour for discussion of a part of national Program, specifically China and Crisis in the Cities. We will send you a report but it will be too late for your report to the Institute.

If you do find any additional money, we would be very glad to arrange a meeting with some of our more isolated Leagues.

Sincerely,

Mrs. William E. Joor

October 15, 1967

Mrs. William Jeer, President
League of Women Voters of Texas
[redacted]

Dear Mrs. Jeer:

On October 25th I will be making a brief oral report to the Institute for International Order. I'm calling on you for a bit of help.

While we are aware from the earlier reports of some of the things planned: the League-Library cooperation in Amarill; special efforts to place speakers culminating in a conference in Austin; the activity in Dallas; early detailed planning in Denton; and reports from Midland and Odessa of effort to secure speakers engagement - we would like to know of any others, or of particular progress in these communities, or even any difficulties run into. I do not need full details; these will come in routinely in response to the next report form. But I would like a general idea of any developments since the August report which you might have gotten wind of, particularly if there is evidence on the part of Leagues which have not previously done so to move into the wider community.

I haven't forgotten the request you made to us while we were in St. Louis. I don't see anything which can be squeezed out of this year's budget myself. But sometimes the unexpected does occur and if we can get anyone into Texas to talk with a few of your more isolated Leagues of course we will. Meantime I know Mrs. Zurbach and I would both be interested in any success you may have had in putting her suggestions to work.

May I ask that you send any reply to the Education Fund office - 1200 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., 20036. I'll be leaving Louisville this Thursday not to return until well after the 25th so anything sent here would miss me. Incidently, I'm sending a copy of this letter to Mrs. Martin. She may have picked up some news, too. It will also save you the need to send it on, or call and consult.

Good to see you in St. Louis. Always come away from these meeting wishing there were more informal time to spend with people.

Many thanks for this help.

Sincerely,

KTC

Mrs. William M. Christophersen

Dear Mrs. Jeer
I'll be eager to learn what success I observe in Midland may have in filling speaking request.
Thanks. KTC.

JUN 10 RECD

Overseas Education Fund
of the League of Women Voters

OEF NEWS

April, 1968

CLAMOR*
by
Nelida de Arce Oruro

La voz de la mujer óyese débil
como un lamento de amargura,
luego que tanto como el llorar de un niño
y alcanzó en confines de su pedir sin rumbo.

The voice of the women sounded feebly,
a bitter lament
like a child's crying,
now piercing the limits of its age-old
pleading.

Se unieron al unísono
inquietudes hermosas
y surcaron los mares
y cruzaron montañas, valles, llanos
trópico y Altiplano.

Far-off women heard and came together,
united in a wonderful concern,
and crossed the seas,
and crossed the mountains, valleys, plains,
tropic and Altiplano.

Fue la voz del progreso de mujeres hermanas
que dieron con su ejemplo bondadoso, cordial,
la virtud de los seres
que trabajan por otros
sin importar su ancestro, su raza o su color.

Theirs was the voice of progress, of
sister-women
who in generous and cordial example
gave the strength of beings
who work for others
uncaring for ancestry, or race, or color.

Clarines de victoria
irrumpirán los tiempos
y llegarán gloriosos históricos momentos
recordando la dicha del porvenir soñado.

Trumpets of victory
shall burst through time,
and glorious moments of history shall
come to remind us
of our dreams of a happier future.

*Presented at the Workshop in Cochabamba, Bolivia in March, 1968 to honor the work of the Overseas Education Fund.

conference on The Improvement of the Volunteer in the Modern Age. The meeting was an unusually ambitious first effort and very successful in its design and implementation.

Sixty voluntary and service organizations were invited to nominate participants. Thirty of these were chosen as delegates; the other thirty, together with seventy other representatives of organizations, attended as observers. In spite of the fact that the participants began with separate personal and organizational preoccupations and were surrounded by a formidable number of distinguished auditors, they were soon engaged in disciplined group discussion and were articulating a new awareness of the role of voluntary organizations. Recommendations were formulated at the conclusion of the conference with respect to the training and responsibilities of volunteers, the selection and planning of projects and programs, and collaboration among organizations.

Publications and printed materials, displays and arrangements to facilitate the work of the conference were of an unusually high order. Funds for the meeting were raised in Mexico City by the Mexican participants working with OEF representatives and U.S. volunteer resouce people; they were greatly assisted by Mrs. Fulton Freeman, wife of the U.S. ambassador.

CENTRAL AMERICANS PLAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Plans are well underway for the fifth annual regional conference for women leaders from Central America and Panama, to be held in Guatemala in June. The planning committee consists of a representative from each of the six countries and is being guided by Dra. Graciela Quan, OEF's Central American field representative. The conference theme will be Central American Development and Its Promotion by Women Citizens' Organizations, and one of the objectives is to produce a plan for a region-wide civic development program. Six delegates from women's organizations in each country will attend the ten day meeting.

The participating organizations are taking an active share in raising funds in their home countries to finance the regional conference. Already, fellowships for delegates from Panama have been contributed by The Gillette Co. and Compañia Panameña de Fuerza y Luz (a subsidiary of Electric Bond and Share Co.) Other American business firms with branches in Central America have also shown a growing interest in the work of these voluntary organizations.

PERSPECTIVES WORTH NOTING

From Survey of the Alliance for Progress: The Political Aspects, a study prepared by the staff of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations:

"A prerequisite of political development is that people want to participate in the political process, not only in the narrow sense of voting and engaging in party activities, but also in the broader sense of taking part in cooperative projects in the community. Another prerequisite is that people think that through such participation they can change something - that through a rural community development effort they can build a school where none existed before; or that through an urban study group of upper middle class women, they can improve garbage collection..."

"The main point with respect not only to community development but also to the total range of civic groups is that through such organizations people get used to the idea of working together for a common end...This idea, which is taken for granted in the United States, is alien to Latin American culture, but it is basic to a democratic society and a liberal free enterprise economic system..."

"...Self-help is frequently measured in terms of a government's efforts to raise revenue, or the way in which it spends the revenue it does raise. But what is more important - and more difficult - is to get across to people to whom the idea is completely alien the notion that they can help themselves in simple, specific ways by working together."

BOLIVIA: A COUNTRY MOVING FORWARD

Bolivia's most striking feature is its topography. Within its boundaries lie windy steppes ten to fourteen thousand feet above sea level...expanses of tropical plain, swamps and rain forests...and at middle altitudes a few temperate valleys.

It is not surprising that the isolation and dissimilarity of these regions have given Bolivia a history almost as discontinuous as its terrain - 180 revolutions in less than a century and a half. It is hardly surprising, either, that the country is sometimes described as "a beggar sitting on a pot of gold"; its vast resources lack transport to the outside world or even within its own borders. For these reasons, of its three and a half million inhabitants, 80% are illiterate, Indian in language and culture, living on the land and outside the money economy.

To this still feudal country, the revolution of 1952, unlike its many forerunners, brought sweeping social change. In the chaotic period that followed, the U.S. extended generous aid and helped to maintain stability and give Bolivians a chance to grope their way into the Twentieth Century. Today, despite the continued presence of nearly every ill that can plague an underdeveloped country, there exists a sense of forward movement and of optimism. And sixteen years of quiet but effective U.S. cooperation have built among significant numbers of Bolivians a reservoir of respect and affection for the North American.

OEF's work in Bolivia began in 1962. In more than a dozen visits to the country, OEF representatives established and maintained continuing relationships with leaders of women's organizations in the principal cities; they gave many talks, led many discussions and several short courses at the request of these organizations. By 1966, eight Bolivian women had travelled to Washington, D.C. to attend OEF Seminars for Latin American civic leaders, and two had completed the longer and more intensive Leadership Institute.

In 1965, OEF began an active collaboration with a Bolivian women's organization known as CONIF (Confederación Nacional de Instituciones Femeninas) to undertake the first nationwide conference to awaken women's interest in voluntary community activity and to build a sense of confidence and common purpose among the women leaders from the diverse and mutually isolated regions.

Planning and preparation took more than one year. Some 200 women from thirteen cities took part in the work, organized into effective committees on administration, finance, arrangements, program, and public relations. Each city sent delegates to the ten day meeting held in La Paz in April, 1966, and some 50 observers were admitted. The workshop participants analyzed the needs of Bolivia in Education, Health, Social Services, Housing, Recreation, and Cultural Activities, and studied techniques for transferring the workshop experience to their home communities. The conference received major national publicity.

Results were immediate and substantial. New branches of CONIF were established in eleven of the participating cities. The books and publications distributed at the workshop became the nucleus for local Information Centers in each of the communities represented. And new goals were programmed, the first of these being a second national conference to broaden the avenues of communication with women in the rural areas.

The second national conference, held in Cochabamba in May, 1967 with OEF continuing its role as co-sponsor, more than fulfilled its objectives. Of the 28 delegates and 75 observers, more than one third were from the rural areas and the mining communities. In the words of an OEF consultant, this precedent-setting meeting was "a veritable leap across gulfs and barriers between social classes and groups, much more significant and hard to bridge than those of distance."

Another unprecedented accomplishment for the Bolivian planners was the raising of all funds for the meeting from local businesses. The momentum generated at the first national conference was accelerated at the second. Covering the topics of Basic Education, Nutrition, Child Protection, Environmental Health, and the Development of Small Industries, the delegates analyzed the problems and conditions which stand in the way of achieving dignity and respect for all of Bolivia's citizens.

Results were again impressive. A branch of CONIF was established in the mining district, and a member organization, the Alliance for Citizens Orientation, sponsored a Civic Education course for women from the mines during "Women's Week" in July. Ten Bolivian participants were chosen for OEF's Institute at Boston University in the Fall of 1967 to accelerate the development of leadership resources.

Last month, a Work and Study Group composed of delegate teams from each of six cities met in Cochabamba for a four day training session under the guidance of OEF field representative Mildred Mersereau, who has long been associated with the Bolivian program and contributed greatly to its success. The delegates' objective was to formulate programs for their communities. Each team of four brought its own topic for planning: Trinidad (women's education); Oruro (training of volunteers and restructuring of community organizations); Santa Cruz (youth and the family); Sucre (education and mental health); Cochabamba (education of volunteers and work toward election of local authorities); and La Paz (training of women in citizenship). Techniques for organizing workshops and study groups, delegating responsibility, and leading discussions were analyzed and practiced. Three delegations actually completed their community plans during the four day session. And most of the cities involved expect to hold area or local workshops by the end of 1968. Plans also go forward for another national conference in 1969.

"My overall impression of Bolivia (aside from the fantastic beauty of the country) is that enormous hunger has been created among women throughout the nation for tools with which to contribute to the betterment of their society," wrote an OEF volunteer leader who recently visited there. "Those who have the techniques are sore-pressed to meet the demand. Larger numbers of leaders need to be trained now while the interest is so keen."

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC CONFERENCES A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE

OEF, which often collaborates with private voluntary organizations, had the unusual experience, with the assistance of a grant from AID and the cooperation of the Dominican Office of Community Development, of conducting a non-partisan seminar for twenty-four of the twenty-six women governors appointed by President Balaguer. The three day conference, directed by OEF representative Una Cross, was on the Role of Women in the Process of Development. It dealt with education, health, social services, housing, recreation and cultural services, and economic development. It was a "first" opportunity for these Governors to meet in a workshop atmosphere to analyze needs of the citizens in their Provinces and to review with invited guest experts priorities and possible solutions.

The third day of their Seminar, the Governors were joined by a group of women volunteers chosen to represent each province for a day of discussion and planning. The volunteer group then met for an additional five days to complete planning and setting in motion the four regional seminars.

The regional workshops took place in March and early April, also under the guidance of the OEF team, and early reports indicate that this unusual project has been a remarkably successful experience. Private or voluntary community organizations have not had a long history in the Dominican Republic. Ground work laid and the interest stimulated in the 156 persons who attended this series of workshops will contribute toward making them a more vital part of the country's civic and political development.

MEXICAN GROUP OFFERS FIRST SEMINAR FOR VOLUNTEER LEADERS

Some months ago, an organization of women leaders in Mexico City known as the Committee of Permanent Service for Social and Cultural Action approached OEF for assistance in expanding their traditional Women's Day celebration, heretofore mostly social and cultural activities, into a more substantial offering. After months of work and planning, with OEF serving as co-sponsor, the Committee conducted in February a one week

Publications

League of Women Voters EDUCATION FUND

[redacted]

League of Women Voters EDUCATION FUND—brochure—free
What is the EDUCATION FUND? What does it do? How is it financed?

VOTING IS PEOPLE POWER—36 pages—25¢ prepaid
How to conduct successful registration and voting drives in inner-city areas; based on nine pilot campaigns sponsored by the EDUCATION FUND and carried out by Leagues of Women Voters, civil rights organizations, inner-city churches, labor unions, civic associations, and neighborhood groups. 1967.

A TALE OF THREE CITIES—20 pages—25¢ prepaid
A year-end report of inner-city citizenship education projects in Baltimore, Boston and Philadelphia; their goals, methods, range of activity; their accomplishments, difficulties, prospects and hopes for the future. Pointers for League development of similar inner-city programs. 1968.

THE GROWING EDGE OF LEAGUE VOTERS SERVICE—12 pages mimeographed—25¢ prepaid
Report of anti-poverty board election participation in Boston area. Useful for Leagues desiring to participate in preparation for or conduct of such elections. 1968.

HOW TO DO A LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COURSE IN THE INNER-CITY—mimeographed—25¢ prepaid
Report on how it was done in Baltimore by EDUCATION FUND's Inner-city Citizenship Education Project. 1968.

CITIZEN EDUCATION—10 pages mimeographed—25¢ prepaid
Summary-evaluation of first phase of North City Congress Citizen Education project, Philadelphia. 1966.

SOCIAL ACTION ON THE INSTALLMENT PLAN by Martin Reim and S. M. Miller—12 pages—mimeographed reprint from TRANS-ACTION January-February 1967—25¢ prepaid
Political and economic strategies of demonstrating and promoting new ideas.

OPEN LETTER ON WHITE JUSTICE AND THE RIOTS by Lee Rainwater—9 pages—mimeographed reprint from TRANS-ACTION September 1967—25¢ prepaid
Nature and causes of riots and the author's proposals for a permanent solution.

POVERTY AND ADULT EDUCATION by Warren C. Haggstrom, Director, Community Action Center, Syracuse University—14 pages—25¢ prepaid
Organizations of the poor—their necessity, value and potentialities. 1964.

INNER-CITY CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION TRAINING MATERIALS—mimeographed—25¢ each prepaid except as noted or 75¢ prepaid for kit of five.

Summary of Training Conference for local Inner-City Project Steering Committee members and staff.

Goals; roles of project leaders, local League presidents, neighborhood leaders; organization and administration; finding leaders; identifying issues; feed-back to community. 1967.

Address by James O. Gibson, Potomac Institute.

Some reflections and words of advice to Inner-city Project Leaders. 1967.

Address by Christopher F. Edley, The Ford Foundation.

Goals of inner-city work and meaning of black power. 1967.

Address by Gus Tyler, President, International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

The inner city as a walled city; walls of poverty, education, self image, geography. 1964.

Inner-city Citizenship Education Project Plan—4 pages mimeographed—10¢ prepaid

Aims and organizational structure of EDUCATION FUND's 3-city Citizenship Education Project. 1967.

THE BIG WATER FIGHT—256 pages, illustrated, hard cover—$6.95. The Stephen Greene Press, 120 Main St., Brattleboro, Vt. 05301. 1966.

The exciting story of citizen action on problems of water supply, pollution, floods, planning. How civic groups can gather facts, analyze alternatives, strengthen public understanding, take effective action in the political arena.

COMPREHENSIVE RIVER BASIN PLANNING: STRUCTURE AND STRATEGY—8 pages—35¢ prepaid, quantity discounts

Institutional arrangements for coordinated basin planning (how established, membership, area, chairman, staff, function); factors for civic leaders to consider; types of planning studies; concerned governmental agencies. 1968.

LAND AND WATER FOR TOMORROW—44 pages—free (limited quantity)

Based on EDUCATION FUND's experience with Land and Water Use Seminars for community leaders. Designed to help civic groups carry out similar projects. 1967.

THE OHIO RIVER BASIN—52 pages—10¢ prepaid, quantity rates

An attractive booklet, with original maps and charts on economy, water and water-related land uses, and governmental agencies of Basin. Prepared by Inter-League Survey Committee for Ohio River Basin. 1964.

GETTING SOMETHING DONE—30 pages—30¢ prepaid; 10% discount on 50 or more

Based on 4 conferences conducted by League of Women Voters of New York to learn how, in a complex society, community and civic organizations can be effective, and how meetings can be used to advance such effectiveness. 1966.

BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE CONVENES—10 pages mimeographed—25¢ prepaid

Report of EDUCATION FUND's pre-session conference for Florida legislators; its planning and evaluation; suggestions for setting up similar conferences in other states. 1967.

REPORT OF THE LET'S LOOK AT CHINA CONFERENCES—11 pages mimeographed—25¢ prepaid

Designed to strengthen the ability of community leadership to stimulate and carry out programs of community education on U.S.-China relations, the Let's Look at China Conferences included substantive speakers, sessions on analyzing communities and useful tools and techniques. 1967.

LET'S LOOK AT CHINA NEWSLETTER—mimeographed—20¢ each prepaid

August 1967 issue—Description of visual aid portraying China's long history and a report by 2 Leagues on how to stimulate community education on U.S.-China relations.

March 1968—How to put on a local China Conference.

AMERICA AND CHINA: Some Reflections on the Relationship—10 pages mimeographed—15¢ prepaid

Speech by Dr. James C. Thomson Jr., East Asian Research Center, Harvard University, at EDUCATION FUND's Let's Look at China Conferences. Main elements of policy toward Mainland China are identified and commented upon. 1967.

THE COMING OF COMMUNISM TO CHINA—16 pages mimeographed—15¢ prepaid

Speech by Dr. John G. Stoessinger, Director, Division of Political Affairs, United Nations, and Professor of Political Science, City University of New York at EDUCATION FUND's Let's Look at China Conferences. Revolutionary antecedents of Chinese Communists' rise to power in 1949 are traced; comments are made on the contemporary scene, both the Chinese "cultural revolution of 1966-67" and problems confronting U.S. policymakers. 1967.

LET'S LOOK AT CHINA PUZZLE—slide film kit—$6.00

36 slides, script and guides for visually presenting with charts, maps, and pictures an introduction to the challenge of U.S.-China relations. Estimated time 20 minutes. Presentation may be adapted to wide range of emphasis and varying length of presentation. 1967.

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OCT 15 RECD

Overseas Education Fund
of the League of Women Voters

OEF NEWS

October, 1968

THE NATIONAL CIVIC EDUCATION PROJECT FOR WOMEN LEADERS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

by

Una J. Cross
Project Director

The Need

In 1966, President Joaquin Balaguer of the Dominican Republic took the unprecedented step of appointing 26 women to the governorships of the provinces of his country for four year terms. While these are positions of limited political authority, without control of appointments or funds, they are nonetheless positions of considerable influence. The governors chair monthly meetings of all government representatives; they see to it that the Constitution and laws of the Republic are complied with; they advise the President about conditions in their provinces; and they supervise all the national activities which take place in their provinces.

In making these appointments, President Balaguer announced, "It is these women who can be the best vehicle for the policy of conciliation which the government wishes to institute." The occupations of the newly appointed governors included physician, judge, social worker, teacher, seamstress, midwife, beauty parlor owner, and homemaker; in age they ranged from 27 to 70. These women were well regarded not as political leaders but for their deep interest in their communities and in their people as human resources.

The governor of Duarte undertakes a survey of the educational needs of a community in her province.

In February, 1967, Mrs. John Elmendorf, representing the Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women Voters, visited the Dominican Republic under a grant from the Department of State "to consult with women leaders and explore ways of assisting women's organizations in the fields of citizenship education and voluntary community services."

In the course of her extensive visits with men and women leaders at all levels throughout the Dominican Republic, Mrs. Elmendorf conferred with 17 of the 26 women women governors in their provinces and with their representatives in five others. She came away deeply impressed with their interest in "a new use of human resources through voluntary organizations working together toward economic, social and political

The Regional Seminars

Work began at once on the four regional seminars to make use of the enthusiasm engendered during the national conference. The Republic was divided into four geographic areas, and volunteer leaders from the provinces in each area were chosen to attend. There was a total of 109 delegates at the four meetings, which took place between March 10 and April 5 at the Hotel La Montana.

In general these meetings followed the pattern of the national conference, with the subject areas narrowed to Education, Health, and Social Service. There was a wide range of occupations represented, with a predominance of teachers and principals of schools. Many different religions, organization memberships, and social and economic classes were also represented. And it was also evident during the discussions that there was a range of political party representation.

There was continued emphasis on the voluntary organization as a democratic vehicle for social change and as a practical application of these principles to the needs of community development. Initially, there was some disillusionment among many of the participants over the discrepancy between what had actually been accomplished in their organization memberships to date and what the seminar content advocated as achievable goals. This was no doubt due to the fact that there has not been a long history of voluntary organizations in the Dominican Republic. To a very large degree, the regional seminars succeeded in awakening interest in the possibilities that could be achieved through effective and democratic group effort.

The Results Begin

The participants returned with enthusiasm to their communities, and they have already begun to involve others. Literacy programs, sewing classes, improved food and child care programs, a new school or hospital, an improved water system - these are only a few of the activities which have been stimulated in communities throughout the country. There have been courses conducted for teachers and meetings with rural women, reports of changed methods in the classroom, and exploratory visits to town governments to offer assistance. The Project Director has already returned to hold short courses on request throughout the country for both men and women on community problems.

These volunteers in Los Minas are building a two story school and community center.

This evidence attests to the depth of acceptance of the democratic process by these capable and dedicated women leaders and to their desire to become contributive parts to the process of growth in their communities and country. Just as President Balaguer cited his women governors as "the vehicle...for conciliation," so the abilities and commitment of all the 156 participants in OEF's civic education project give evidence of great potential to foster and to influence sound and democratic community development programs throughout the Dominican Republic.

development in a democratic way." And she agreed to relay to the Overseas Education Fund a request from the Minister of Labor for a workshop for the governors of the provinces and selected volunteer leaders on the means by which this new potential could be realized.

"The need for grass-roots participation in the building of democratic institutions is great," Mrs. Elmendorf emphasized in her official report. "Cutting across agencies, national and international, voluntary and governmental, at the provincial level could be a productive technique for regional planning and developing. Building bridges between various groups - urban and rural, the educated and the illiterate, the rich and the poor, the industrial and the agricultural - could also be a device worth considering in this situation and one which would well adapt to the interests, capabilities, and levels of authority of the present governors of the Dominican Republic."

The Approach

The Overseas Education Fund reviewed Mrs. Elmendorf's recommendations in the light of its experience in other countries, and especially its field programs in Latin America. It was agreed that the climate in the Dominican Republic did indeed favor prompt and specific action. However, experience clearly dictated that a one-time conference, while it would ripple the surface quite dramatically for a short period of time, would not have a lasting or penetrating effect.

The potential: "A new use of human resources through voluntary organizations."

And so the Fund requested the support of the U.S. AID Mission in the Dominican Republic to undertake a "compressed" version of its customary longer-term pattern of activity. To further the gains of a national conference, "the most effective form of continuity is the strengthening of area resources and the extension of participation in this training to the community level ....There is both a multiplying and intensifying effect."

A two-phase program with both national and regional seminars to be conducted by the Overseas Education Fund was authorized by the AID Mission. The Project Director began by visiting each of the 26 governors and other concerned government and civic leaders to ascertain that their interest in undertaking such an activity continued. She also consulted closely with the Dominican Office of Community Development. On receiving strong assurance of high interest from all parties, OEF proceeded with its plans for a national conference in January, 1968, to be followed by four regional seminars in March and April.

The core teaching team for the national conference, which was supplemented by invited guest experts who served as resource specialists for individual program subjects, consisted of:

Mrs. Una J. Cross, Project Director and field representative for the Overseas Education Fund;
Dra. Graciela Quan, OEF field representative for Central America and former Chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women and Guatemalan delegate to the United Nations; and
Sra. Carmen Isales Wale, teacher and social worker, Chief of Field Training of the Community Education Division, Department of Education, Puerto Rico.

The National Conference

The national conference took place from January 26 through February 3, 1968, at the Hotel La Montana in Jarabacoa. The first two days of the meeting were devoted exclusively to the governors. Twenty-four of the 26 governors attended; of the two absent, one was detained in her province by a visit from the president and the other had just lost her husband. On the third day, a group of volunteer leaders, chosen democratically from each of the provinces, arrived for joint sessions with the governors so that work could begin immediately on extending the experience. The last part of the conference was devoted to the volunteers.

The "Seminario Taller" - a group meeting to consider common problems, interchange ideas and experiences, and look for practical solutions - is an effective form of working with women leaders that has been increasingly used by the Overseas Education Fund in its programs. These workshops create an atmosphere favorable to growth in understanding of democratic concepts and at the same time they provide an excellent environment for the demonstration and practice of relevant methods and techniques. The emphasis on democratic group discussion and involvement of the individual is usually a totally new and significant experience for citizens accustomed to an authoritarian or paternalistic culture.

The program calendar for the governors' meeting included six subject areas: Education, Health, Social Services, Housing, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, and Economic Development. Guest specialists were invited to comment briefly on each field and to make continuing contributions of an informal nature in the ensuing discussions. Each governor chose three of the six subjects as special interest areas, and for two of these she attended small work groups with the resource specialists. In addition, there were plenary sessions and a special session conducted by a member of the teaching team on the group discussion method as a conference tool.

At noon on Sunday, the volunteer leaders arrived and after a get-acquainted lunch the joint program began. A panel of six governors presented the analyses and conclusions of the six interest groups to the newcomers, with the panel of resource specialists serving on a supplementary panel. Because of the interested and heated discussions, the session lasted far into the evening. For the final joint session the next morning, the governors and volunteers had one meeting on group dynamics and another on seminar planning.

Dra. Graciela Quan visits with participants at the national conference

With the departure of the governors, the volunteer group continued its own work. This group consisted of 3 directors of schools, 1 inspector of education, 1 pharmacist, 2 housewives, 1 radio announcer, 1 nurse, 1 seamstress, 7 teachers, 2 field extension agents, and 3 public employees. While the volunteer group did not initially have the cohesive interest of the governors, they rapidly showed facility in participating in the conference program. Their sessions continued discussion of the interest areas and dealt with the application of these new concepts and techniques to work in their home communities. Special emphasis was placed on democratic methods and on the use of the voluntary organization as a vehicle for community development.

The dedication and interest of all the participants was extraordinary. Comprehension of the democratic process, even in so short a time, seemed very deep as evidenced in relations among members of the group; and each participant seemed to acquire confidence in her ability to apply what she had learned. As one governor commented, "We have extended our knowledge of a better democratic way of life to preserve human dignity, and right here we have had the example that we are equal to it."

NOVEMBER 1968

Newsletter

League of Women Voters EDUCATION FUND

[redacted]

Everything the League of Women Voters Education Fund is, and does, is closely interwoven with the League of Women Voters itself. The League and the Fund supplement each other, overlap in some areas, and are always a resource to each other. Both have the same general purpose - to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League carries out its purpose in a number of ways, including political action on selected issues; the Fund works through many educational approaches, but excludes the action phase because, unlike the League, it is financed by tax-exempt contributions and foundation grants.

Some EF projects are initiated by the Fund itself, and are in fields of current or potential interest to the League: registration drives or voter education in the inner city, land and water use seminars for community leaders, regional conferences on China, pre-session conferences for state legislators. The Fund is able to develop additional, sometimes experimental, dimensions for these League undertakings. Experience gained in such projects is then available to all Leagues through reports, publications and consultations with board and staff.

A second type of EF project originates in a local community or state. This Newsletter brings to state and local Leagues a few examples.

STUDIES OF CONSTITUTIONS AND GOVERNMENT. 100,000 *What Have We Here? - A Brief Look At New Mexico's Constitution,* designed to help prepare the public for a vote on a call to a convention, were distributed to organizations, high schools, offices of the governor and other state executives, political parties, TV and radio stations, newspapers, the Constitutional Revision Committee, Indian leaders, parish priests and Protestant ministers, CAP leaders, and labor unions. As a fringe benefit, the state League president told how the booklet led to requests to help register Indian voters in 18 pueblos. "This is the kind of break we dream about.....I hope you can see the important benefits this grant is providing for New Mexico and the League." Financing of printing and distribution was by The Sears-Roebuck Foundation.

The Alaska League prepared for EF publication a *Survey of the Government of the State of Alaska* to "foster interest and participation in state government." Financed by contributions to the EF from the Anchorage Daily News, the Standard Oil Co. of California-Western Operations and The Sears-Roebuck Foundation, the book describes the constitution and government, gives a brief history of Alaska and discusses problems of development in a state of immense area, rugged geography and relatively small population.

Some other recent state publications published with ear-marked tax-deductible contributions to the EF are: (1) the Oklahoma League's 2-part *Study of the Oklahoma Constitution* financed by The Sears-Roebuck Foundation; (2) the *Montana 'Know Your State'* partially financed by gifts to the EF from Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Co., Farmers' Union Central Exchange Refinery, Anaconda Co., The Sears-Roebuck Foundation and the Helen Emblem Memorial Fund; (3) two printings of *How to Vote in Washington,* a simplified state voters guide designed to reach a broad public, especially in the central city, was financed by the Washington State Labor Council (AFL-CIO), Aerospace Industrial District Lodge 751 (AFL-CIO), Washington Federation of State Employees, and Association of Washington Industries; (4) And, most recently, a grant from The Sears-Roebuck Foundation will underwrite a *City-County Government Survey* prepared by the Boise League.

CONFERENCES. A first Institute of International Affairs - "Revolution in the Developing Countries" - was planned and conducted by the Washington state League and financed by local foundation grants and contributions to the EF. "The 596 people who attended heard excellent speakers participate in lively panels, asked many, many questions, bought a great many books about foreign economic policy in the developing countries, and left the Seattle Center Playhouse at the end of the day with glowing praise for the whole conference." Tapes of a talk by Barbara Ward, recorded by a local radio station, will be available for sale or rent. "There will be a second Institute of International Affairs. We don't know when.....but we would be failing the community if we didn't continue to build on the brilliant beginning made on June 22, 1968.

One-day seminars on Community Involvement in Economic Development in Los Angeles and San Francisco areas were financed by The Sears-Roebuck Foundation. 500 attended. Represented on the Planning Committee were business, labor, government and civic organizations. Goals were: to pinpoint factors that contribute to a community's economic development to stress the interrelationships of citizens, government, commerce and industry needed for progress, and to stimulate and direct citizen interest toward promoting economic development in California. "How do we pay for increased government services?" "How do we provide jobs?" "If we do attract new industries, new people, how do we best utilize our land for open space, recreation, housing, industry, agriculture?" The California League's experiences in planning and conducting these conferences will be available to other Leagues and organizations in a "how-to" tool.

In Boston on November 21 at a School of State Affairs - *Education for the Year 2000* - an audience of 1100 Leaguers, legislators, lay educational leaders, and school administrators will consider what education for the year 2000 can and should be like. Planned by the Massachusetts League, the Institute is partially funded by local foundation grants and contributions to the EF.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION PROJECTS. For 57 days the Pennsylvania League operated a Constitutional Convention Information Center financed by a grant from The Sears-Roebuck Foundation to the EF. The purpose was to make unbiased information available to the public; to keep the public conversant with the Convention proceedings and issues, to stimulate the public's interest and participation, and to arrange tours of the Convention for Leagues and other groups. Material about the Convention and issues was distributed; briefings and meetings between delegates and constituents were arranged. From the final report and evaluation: "We were pleased to be given the opportunity to serve Pennsylvania with the Information Center.....many appreciative letters and comments were received from those who said the service was valuable and not available anywhere else. We were able to help students, interested citizens and delegates as well."

A mock constitutional convention in West Virginia, attended by 100 high school students from all counties in the state, aimed at creating an understanding of a convention and what it might do for the state. Cost of participants' materials was underwritten by The Sears-Roebuck Foundation.

If a local or state League wants the EF to embark on a project in its community or state with financing from local or state foundations or sizeable (not less than $100) contributions from local corporations or individuals who want their gifts to be tax-exempt, it can request the EF to consider the activity a Fund project. The money is given to the EF ear-marked for the project. Once approved by the EF Trustees, the project is carried out with state or local League personnel and facilities. The Fund is responsible for the standard of performance of its projects and maintains a supervisory role. Credit is shared. For instance, title pages say "Published by the League of Women Voters Education Fund; prepared by the League of Women Voters of _____; aided by contribution(s) from _____". Conference announcements and programs say "Sponsored by the League of Women Voters Education Fund; conducted by the League of Women Voters of _____; costs (partially underwritten by _____". For more detailed information about steps to be taken and procedures to be followed for EF approval and conduct of local and state projects, write the EF office.

League of Women Voters
of the United States

Memorandum

[redacted]

This Memo only is going on
Duplicate Presidents Mailing

November 27, 1968

To: Local and State League Presidents (for Voters Service Chairmen)

From: The National Office

Re: OEO Guidelines for 1967 Amendments

You will recall that on page 62 of the September NATIONAL BOARD REPORT it was stated that the final, official form of the Guidelines under Section 603 (B) of Public Law 90-222, Office of Economic Opportunity Amendments of 1967 was now available. A second printing of these Guidelines was necessary before we could obtain from the OEO sufficient copies for each local and state League. Hence the delay in sending the attached publication to you.

We are sorry that we have been able to obtain only one copy for each League, which is being mailed to the president.

What Is The Education Fund?

Established in 1957 by the League of Women Voters of the United States, the Fund is a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening citizens' knowledge of the principles of representative government in the United States. It is governed by a 13-member Board.

What Does The Education Fund Do?

Through training conferences and pilot projects, the Fund experiments with and demonstrates techniques to stimulate effective citizen participation in governmental decisions. Basically, Education Fund projects help to show people how to implement plans through orderly citizen action and get things done. The Fund also publishes studies of government, case histories, manuals, and background papers on selected issues. The Fund does not support candidates, specific legislation, or any political party.

What Are The Fund's Continuing Interests?

Two major objectives are:

to stimulate citizen participation in core cities

to enhance the quality of the environment throughout the United States

Does The Education Fund Have A Membership?

It has no membership but may and does call on state and local leaders of the League of Women Voters and other organizations for assistance in initiating experimental projects.

How Is The Education Fund Financed?

The Fund is financed by grants, gifts, and bequests from foundations, corporations, and individuals. All such gifts are tax-deductible.

MAJOR EDUCATION FUND PROJECTS

LAND AND WATER USE PILOT PROJECTS

Such projects have been carried out in six different regions, and nine more are planned from 1967 to 1970. In each region, a three-day Seminar gives carefully selected community leaders the background which will enable them to help their organizations and other citizen groups to take an effective part in land and water decisions in their own communities and states.

Supported by a Demonstration Grant from the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, Department of the Interior

INNER-CITY CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

Baltimore, Boston, and Philadelphia have been chosen for pilot projects in citizen education. The goal is to bring inner-city people more directly into participation in our democratic governmental processes.

Financed by The Ford Foundation

REGISTRATION AND VOTING PROJECT

In succeeding national and local election years, nine community-wide drives with inner-city target areas were conducted, following two Washington, D. C., training conferences. Devising and testing new techniques, a wide cross-section of volunteer organizations reached, motivated, and helped to register thousands of isolated and usually inarticulate citizens in the inner city.

Financed by The Sears-Roebuck Foundation

PRE-SESSION LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCES

A pre-session, three-day conference brought together Florida legislators, Florida State University faculty, and out-of-state experts. Together they projected the problems (and possible solutions) Florida will face in the future — in education, health and welfare, taxes and fiscal policy, roads. First of a series to be held in different states.

Financed by The Sears-Roebuck Foundation

CHINA CONFERENCES

In Oklahoma City and Pittsburgh, civic leaders met to evaluate the coverage of their news media and information sources and to formulate plans for wide dissemination of all points of view on U. S.-China relations.

Financed by the Institute for International Order

Some Locally-Initiated Projects With Local Funding

COUNTY AT THE CROSSROADS: A Conference on Modernizing King County Government, Seattle, Washington

CHINA CONFERENCE, Louisville, Kentucky

PUBLIC RELATIONS SEMINAR, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

URBAN-SUBURBAN COOPERATION CONFERENCE, Newark, New Jersey

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

VOTING IS PEOPLE POWER, a manual telling how to conduct successful inner-city registration and voting campaigns and describing techniques for motivating inner-city citizens. Based on nine inner-city projects.

Financed by The Field and Sears-Roebuck Foundations

THE BIG WATER FIGHT, a book describing citizen action on water problems, based on actual case histories of League of Women Voters work at local, state, regional, and federal levels, often in cooperation with other civic groups. Stephen Greene Press, October 1966; second printing March 1967.

Research and writing supported by a grant from Resources for the Future, Inc.

LAND AND WATER FOR TOMORROW, a handbook based on experience with Land and Water Use Projects in six regions, is designed to help civic and other groups to carry out similar leadership training projects.

Supported by a Demonstration Grant from the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, Department of the Interior

CHALLENGE ON THE HUDSON, a summary of the sessions of the 1966 Hudson-Mohawk River Basin Seminar on Land and Water Use.

Financed by the American Conservation Association, Inc.

GETTING SOMETHING DONE: Techniques for political effectiveness and conference techniques. Prepared by the League of Women Voters of New York State, based on results of four conferences.

Financed by The Sears-Roebuck Foundation

MASSACHUSETTS VOTERS HANDBOOK
Prepared by the LWV of Massachusetts

MISSOURI VOTERS HANDBOOK
Prepared by the LWV of Missouri

REGISTER AND VOTE IN CALIFORNIA
Prepared by the LWV of California

STATE CONSTITUTION REVISION
Prepared by the LWV of Texas

STUDY OF OKLAHOMA CONSTITUTION
Prepared by the LWV of Oklahoma

YOU AND YOUR CITY
Prepared by the LWV of Philadelphia

A publications and price list is available

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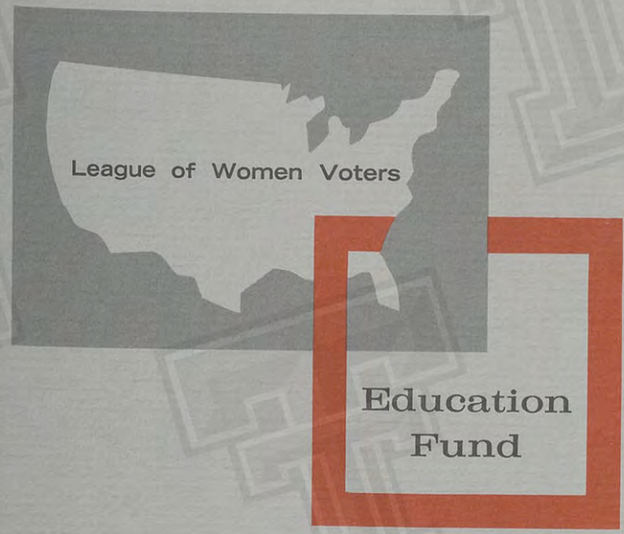

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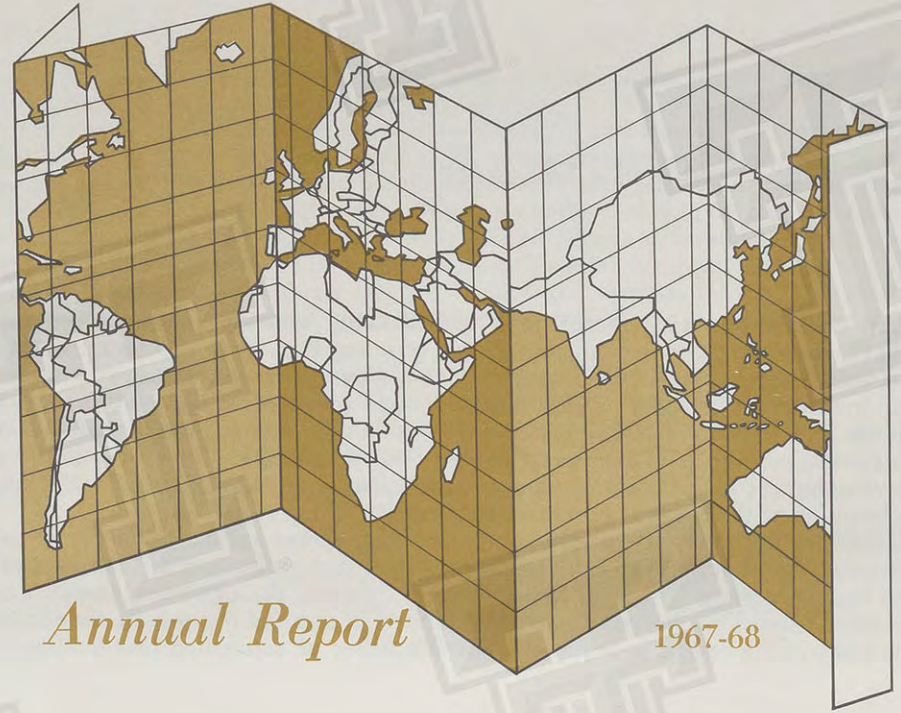

Annual Report 1967-68

OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND
of the League of Women Voters

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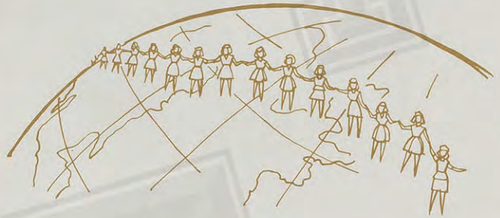


The President's Message

Television authority Fred W. Friendly in his recent book* called Latin America "the most unreported story of our time." That this should be so is a lamentable and puzzling fact. Even though crises occurring in other parts of the world may be more visible and dramatic, why are we so persistently unaware of the needs and aspirations of the other 268 million human beings who live in our hemisphere, two thirds of whom, for example, are suffering from malnutrition? Why do we know so little of their troubled economic and political histories, concern ourselves so little with their problems of illiteracy, poverty and disease, or with their growing hunger for effective channels of participation in their own future? Why are we so insensitive to the beauties of their language, their rich literature, their vibrant culture?

It is understandable that our need persists for dramatic signs of progress against the array of problems which confront our country and our world. Still, let us not forget that progress of substance is often of the quite modest, step-by-step variety. Through the Alliance for Progress, through our economic agreements, our foreign assistance legislation, through the creative efforts of some of our private foundations, and through the strengthening relationships between a growing number of concerned communities and private organizations here in the United States and their sister organizations to the South, we are indeed participating in a large and largely unreported story.

The Overseas Education Fund is proud to play a part in this story. Its efforts for the fiscal year just ended have continued the commitment of its modest resources to encouraging and assisting citizenship programs in Latin America, many of which are now well past the formative stage and are beginning to assume dimensions of national scope. Growing numbers of able citizens now possess the heartfelt desire and the needed competences to guide their fellow citizens in formulating and carrying forward strategies of self-help. These may result in a new school or hospital for a poor community, an improved child care or nutrition program for a dusty village, a municipal election reform, a voter registration campaign, or a nationwide citizen education program. But their critical significance is that they are increasingly self-initiated.

In the brief review of our program year which follows, which must properly include a description of our own services and counsel, my hope is that each friend and supporter of OEF's work will look beyond what *we* have accomplished and take pride and inspiration from what our sister citizens are doing to improve the quality of life in their communities and countries.

*Due to Circumstances Beyond Our Control . . ., Random House, 1967.

Sincerely,

Martha Briscoe

Mrs. John D. Briscoe, President

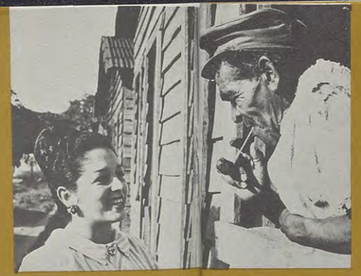
of support within the Central American countries — including not only local businesses, but U.S. AID missions, and branches and subsidiaries of U.S. corporations.

The year round activities of the women's organizations in Central America have grown too numerous to include. But among those meriting brief mention as outstanding achievements are the printing and distribution of 50,000 citizenship primers by the Union de Ciudadanas de Panama, and a first national workshop in Nicaragua for 96 representatives of 22 organizations who selected four key civic problems for study and action.

■ OEF's activities in the Dominican Republic constitute a "first" of a magnitude heretofore unequalled in its 21 year history of service. In a spirit of warm cooperation with the Office of Community Development of that country (and at the personal invitation of its Minister of Labor), OEF conducted through the Winter and Spring months a series of conferences designed to stimulate the growth of democratic organizations in a country where they had all too long been silent. This project, under the direction of field representative Una Cross, was made possible by a program grant from the U.S. AID mission in the Dominican Republic.

The first seminar was held in January with the women governors of the 26 provinces who had been appointed to four year terms by Dominican President Balaguer as "vehicles of conciliation." These women, ranging in age from 27 to 70, were chosen not as political leaders but for their deep interest in their communities and in their people as human resuorces; the governorships are positions of limited fiscal and executive power but nonetheless carry considerable influence.

The January conference on the subject areas of Education, Health, Social Services, Housing, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, and Economic Development proved to be the first opportunity which the Dominican governors had had for a working meeting on their shared problems. To it also came representative women leaders from all of the provinces. Working with this nucleus group, the project director and her OEF team expanded the seminar series to four regional meetings involving more than 100 additional community leaders. The dedication and interest of all the participants was extraordinary, and already in many of the communities, citizens' activities are burgeoning — for a new community school, a hospital, a water system, a sewer system, a citywide cleanup campaign, or a child care program. As one governor commented on the impact of the seminars, "We have extended our knowledge of a better democratic way of life to preserve human dignity, and right here we have had the example that we are equal to it."



The Governor of Duarte in the Dominican Republic undertakes an educational survey of a community in her province.

The Governor of Puerto Plata welcomes the views of citizens.

■ In Mexico, a first effort of a quite different nature occurred in February, when 60 already well established private voluntary service organizations undertook an intensive re-evaluation of the role of the volunteer in the modern age. With OEF serving as official co-sponsor and an invited OEF team of specialists on hand to assist in program planning and other conference activities, the delegates pondered the training and responsibilities of volunteers, the selection and planning of worthwhile programs, and the need for collaboration among voluntary organizations. The week-long meeting was widely praised and in addition, the sponsoring Comité sought and received tax exempt status to mount this effort and successfully raised a substantial portion of the funds, assisted by the Mexican participants, OEF representatives, and interested volunteers such as the wife of the U.S. ambassador.

■ No accounting of OEF's Latin American program would be complete without the inclusion of a report on its U.S.-based training programs — which have built up a reserve of more than 200 working leaders who have experienced civic action programs in the United States. These are the annual Seminar in Washington for mature community leaders, which is coupled with a three week travel program

Measurable Strides Towards Democratic Goals

OEF'S PROGRAM FOR 1967-68

THIS HAS BEEN A YEAR of broadening as well as deepening experience for the Overseas Education Fund.

OEF's intensive work in Bolivia, primarily in the form of assistance to Confederación Nacional de Instituciones Femeninas, has come to fruition in the vigorous activities of that organization, which has expanded from two to 19 branches and into all parts of the country. (This organization was assigned a key role by the Bolivian government in handling flood control relief activities when parts of the country were so severely afflicted last Spring.) Teams of OEF graduates are working on community action programs in at least six cities. And in the sleepy and remote little town of Trinidad, two graduates of OEF's Institute sparked a short course in May on Volunteer Work, which had to be limited to 100 citizen-delegates including the provincial prefect and the local doctor, dentist, and priest. According to a visiting observer, the course ended "with a glow of satisfaction and a surplus in the treasury."

A panel on Education at the University of Cuyo Community Action Seminar in Mendoza, Argentina.

Community action teams at work in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

The April Workshop of OEF "trainees" in San Juan, Argentina.

Inaugural ceremonies at the Central American Regional Seminar in June.

In Argentina, graduates of OEF programs continued their voluntary training with an April Workshop in San Juan under the direction of field representative Mildred Mersereau. It was a planning and study conference following on last year's successful nationwide seminar on New Dimensions in Volunteer Work. Several OEF graduates also deserve recognition for their efforts in helping to launch the first community action seminar at the University of Cuyo in Mendoza. Covering the subjects of labor, housing, population, education, and health, it was attended by 25 carefully selected professional and volunteer workers from these fields. At its conclusion, the Dean of the University remarked that "the faculty has come out from its academic cloister to take to its heart the life of the community."

In Central America, the scene of OEF's longest continuous program of service, the fifth regional seminar took place in June in Antigua, Guatemala, under the guidance of field representative Dra. Graciela Quan and a six-country planning committee. There were 36 delegates to the meeting, representing the lively and energetic women's organizations now flourishing in all six countries. As one U.S. observer commented, "The work these women hope to do through their organizations represents a departure from the known and accepted in their societies."

In addition to the traditional value of affording an exchange of experience and continued training in organization methods, the fifth Central American Seminar included an impressive number of firsts. It resulted in the first formal cooperation of these organizations in adopting a regionwide plan: a major goal for next year is to promote civic education programs in the schools throughout Central America. It was the first at which OEF's parent organization, the League of Women Voters of the United States, and its sister organization, the League's Education Fund, were represented by guest specialists. And it was the first to be funded through the organized efforts of the participating national groups and from sources

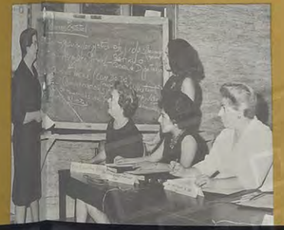
to observe citizenship activities in other cities, and OEF's Institute, now offered as a four month program at Boston University. The emphasis of the Institute is on organization techniques and the group process, as well as on direct involvement in community action programs. Both the Seminar and the Institute took place with great success in the Fall, the former with 16 participants and the latter with 25. Both programs have by now clearly demonstrated the relevance of the timely infusion of leadership resources to meet the growing enthusiasm for citizen activity as it occurs from country to country, stimulated in part by OEF's own field services.

■ Although the vast majority of OEF's resources—both human and financial—continued to be invested in Latin America during the year just ended, its mission to promote responsible citizenship wherever opportunities arise, requests appear, and resources permit was achieved in other areas of the world as well. Last Fall, four distinguished delegates representing OEF, the League of Women Voters, and the League's Education Fund returned the earlier visit of the delegation of the Soviet Women's Committee, and were warmly welcomed during their three week tour of Russia. In the words of the delegation chairman, "We four individuals possess new knowledge of the Soviet Union, new respect for the achievements of the Russian people, new insights into the issues that bind us and divide us, and new friends."

In June, OEF Trustee Mrs. Edward Boyne made a two month tour of five East Asian countries — Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines — as a consultant under a grant from the Department of State to confer with women's organizations and leaders of civic groups about citizen education and community problems. Wherever she went, Mrs. Boyne was credited with injecting enthusiasm and new ideas; and in at least one city in Korea, civic leaders — both men and women — have continued to meet together on a regular basis after their consultation with her.

Mrs. Lyndon Johnson congratulates the graduates of OEF's Institute V.

The Eighth Multi-National Seminar for Latin American women leaders held in Washington.



■ The traditional headquarters activities — briefings and tours of the Capitol requested by the government and by individuals for visiting citizens of other countries, receptions for distinguished women leaders, and reporting and discussion sessions between OEF's field personnel and other professionals — continued without abatement. In all, some 80 visitors from 15 countries were given special presentations about the government, election procedures, and the work of the League and other voluntary organizations. And for a prominent election official from Thailand, studying election procedures in this country under the auspices of the Department of State, OEF programmed a special tour of Eastern cities during a lively period of Spring primary elections; Leagues of Women Voters in 16 cities cooperated in this undertaking and provided an excellent agenda of activities for his tour.

■ OEF's publications program was augmented during the year by new releases in both Spanish and English. A major publication was *Análisis De La Communidad: Un Paso Hacia La Acción* (*Analysis of the Community: A Step to Action*). Produced by RTAC (AID's regional publishing arm for Spanish materials, located in Mexico City), it will be offered free of charge at AID Missions throughout Latin America, and advance orders indicate that it will enjoy a distribution running to many thousands. To help meet the growing number of requests for program materials coming from other parts of the world, a chapter of the *Analysis* has been published in English as a self-contained booklet. And as mimeographed materials have been developed for OEF programs, those with broad potential usefulness are added to the Publications List; even in this simple form, they have enjoyed wide usage.

■ This report must conclude with a brief consideration of the impact which all of these experiences have made on the Overseas Education Fund itself. This organization has always been fortunate in the quality of interest and counsel among its voluntary leaders and supporters as well as in the commit-

ment and calibre of its paid staff. The necessary length of this report attests to the considerable expansion of activities which has occurred in the year just ended; yet it should be pointed out that this was achieved with a very modest expansion of staff. It has also been realized through a growing capability in program planning and cycling, and the utilization of both financial and human resources. OEF has again ended the year in a healthy financial condition, no small feat in this day when almost every service organization is under great financial stress.

In regard to its competence and confidence, the Overseas Education Fund has grown in stature as an organization. In regard to program goals, it has made measurable strides in promoting citizen involvement, in accelerating the pace of civic activities, and in achieving the long desired "multiplier effect" among the citizens of other countries whom it has reached. And because of OEF's dedication to the democratic process, it has happily enjoyed with them a climate of trust, credibility and mutual respect which has undoubtedly contributed to the effectiveness of its work.

(Left) Ceremonies at El Día de la Mujer (Woman's Day) in Mexico City, which took place during the February Conference of voluntary service organizations.

(Right) The U.S. delegation and hostesses from the Soviet Women's Committee have lunch with the deputy mayor of the new town of Sumgait in Russia.

OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

July 1, 1967 - June 30, 1968

INCOME

Designated Fund Balance from Prior Year	$ 15,118
Designated Contributions and Grants	5,338
Less: Designated Income Deferred to Future Period	(12,755)
Undesignated Contributions and Grants	96,653
Reimbursements for Programs and Services...	175,922
Publications (Gross)	1,066
Interest and Dividends	2,385
	$283,727

EXPENSE*

Latin American Headquarters Program Services	$ 34,382
South American Field Program	31,409
Central American Field Program	32,493
Dominican Republic Civic Education Project ..	29,802
OEF Institute, Boston University	93,655
Mexican Workshop	2,474
Russian Exchange	4,498
Multi-National Seminar, Washington, D.C.	6,733
Conference on "Institution Building," Washington, D.C.	5,905
Headquarters Program Services: Publications, Briefings, Visitors Services	5,000
Organizational Development	25,176
	$271,527

*Includes distribution by audit of indirect costs ($90,617) of administration, office overhead, and program coordination.

Audit by Councilor, Buchanan & Mitchell

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(As of June 30, 1968)

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Mrs. John H. Kreinheder, Clinton, N.Y.
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Mr. Richard W. Van Wagenen, Washington, D.C.

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Mrs. Robert Zurbach, Pasadena, Calif.

PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO INVEST IN THE OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND

OEF achieves its programs by creating a partnership based on the resources and contributions of government, education, and private organizations and individuals. Last year, these organizations contributed directly to the Fund's headquarters and program costs:

Corporations and Corporate Foundations
- The Andreas Foundation
- Compania Interamericana Gillette, S.A.
- Crown Zellerbach Foundation
- Electric Bond & Share Co.
- Humble Companies Charitable Trust (Standard Oil Company of New Jersey)
- Levi Strauss Foundation, Inc.
- Mobil Oil Corporation
- Sperry and Hutchinson Foundation, Inc.
- Sears-Roebuck Foundation
- Singer Sewing Machine Co.
- Stone and Youngberg
- United Fruit Co.
- The Winton Companies Fund

Foundations
- Edward C. Congdon Memorial Trust
- The Ford Foundation
- Interchange Foundation
- The Ivy Fund
- The Lasbury Foundation, Inc.
- Levin Trust
- Madeleine M. Low Fund, Inc.
- Evelyn Picker Foundation
- Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Inc.
- The Scherman Foundation, Inc.
- The Stetten Foundation
- The Florence and Fred Thomases Foundation
- Blanche & Frank Wolf Foundation

Individual and Memorial Gifts
- 196 gifts received — $30,665

Program Contracts
- Agency for International Development
  - Bureau for Latin America
  - Office of International Training
  - US/AID Mission of the Dominican Republic
- Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

Contributions to the Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women Voters are Deductible for Income Tax Purposes

Last year, OEF also placed special emphasis on encouraging the civic organizations with whom it is working to develop sources of support within their own countries. The following organizations contributed directly to projects and programs being conducted by these civic organizations in collaboration with the Overseas Education Fund:

Corporations

COSTA RICA
- Colgate-Palmolive (Central America) Inc.

EL SALVADOR
- Colgate-Palmolive (Central America) Inc.
- IBM World Trade Corporation
- Kimberly-Clark

GUATEMALA
- Empresa Electra

HONDURAS
- Agencia Merz
- Fajdad
- Grupo de Empresas
- Lovable
- United Fruit Co.

MEXICO
- Banco de Comercio, S.A.
- Banco Nacional de Mexico, S.A.
- The Coca Cola Export Co. of Mexico
- Cia de Fianzas Mexico, S.A.
- Gerber Products Inc.
- Heinz Alimentos, S.A.
- Cia Industrial de San Cristobal
- Kellogg de Mexico, S.A. de C.V.
- Nacional de Cobre, S.A.
- Nacional Financiera, S.A.
- Minnesota Manufactura de Mexico, S.A.
- Productos Quaker Oats de Mexico, S.A. de C.V.
- Sears Roebuck de Mexico, S.A. de C.V.

PANAMA
- Colgate-Palmolive (Central America) Inc.
- Fuerza y Luz de Panama
- Compania Interamericana Gillette, S.A.
- Singer Sewing Machine Company

Program Grants

US/AID Missions in
- Costa Rica
- El Salvador
- Guatemala
- Honduras
- Mexico
- Panama

What Is the Education Fund?

Established in 1957 by the League of Women Voters of the United States, the Fund is a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening citizens' knowledge of the principles of representative government in the United States. It is governed by a 15-member Board.

What Does The Education Fund Do?

Through training conferences and pilot projects, the Fund experiments with and demonstrates techniques to stimulate effective citizen participation in governmental decisions. Basically, Education Fund projects help to show people how to implement plans and to get things done through citizen action. The Fund also publishes studies of government, case histories, manuals, and background papers on selected issues. The Fund does not support candidates, specific legislation, or any political party.

What Are The Fund's Continuing Interests?

Two major objectives are:

to stimulate citizen participation in inner-city areas

to enhance the quality of the environment throughout the United States

Does The Education Fund Have A Membership?

It has no membership but may and does call on state and local leaders of the League of Women Voters and other organizations for assistance in initiating experimental projects.

How Is The Education Fund Financed?

The Fund is financed by grants, gifts, and bequests from foundations, corporations, and individuals. All such gifts are tax-deductible.

MAJOR EDUCATION FUND PROJECTS

LAND AND WATER USE PILOT PROJECTS

Land and Water Use Seminars for Community Leaders have been held in 12 different regions. For three days participants discuss and plan how their organizations and citizen groups can play an effective role in land and water decisions in their own communities and states.

Supported by a Demonstration Grant from the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, Dept. of the Interior

INNER-CITY CITIZEN EDUCATION

Major pilot citizenship education projects are being conducted in inner-city areas of Baltimore, Boston and Philadelphia. Greater participation of residents in governmental processes to effect solutions to the problems of their communities is the goal. Consultation and supplementary financial assistance have also been given similar projects in Chester (Pennsylvania), Los Angeles, New Orleans and St. Louis.

Financed by The Ford Foundation

REGISTRATION AND VOTING PROJECT

Registration and voting campaigns in 9 inner-city areas devised and tested new techniques for motivating a greater number of citizens to participate in the electoral process. A how-to publication, *Voting Is People Power*, has spread the information to other communities from coast to coast.

Financed by The Sears-Roebuck Foundation

PRE-SESSION LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCES

In 1967 a Pre-session Legislative Conference brought Florida legislators, Florida State University faculty and out-of-state experts together for three days to discuss problems the legislators deal with in education, health and welfare, roads and financing, and possible solutions. Similar conferences were co-sponsored in 1968 by the Education Fund in Louisiana with the Louisiana Legislative Council and in Connecticut with the University of Connecticut.

Financed by The Sears-Roebuck Foundation

CHINA CONFERENCES

In June 1967 civic leaders within a hundred mile radius of Pittsburgh and a larger area around Oklahoma City met to consider techniques for greater dissemination of factual, unbiased information about United States-China relations. The following year was spent putting these techniques to work in a hundred different communities.

Financed by the Institute for International Order

Some Locally-Initiated Projects with Local Funding

COUNTY AT THE CROSSROADS, Modernizing King County Government Conference—Seattle, Washington

EDUCATION IN THE YEAR 2000 CONFERENCE—Boston, Massachusetts

REVOLUTION IN DEVELOPING NATIONS CONFERENCE—Seattle, Washington

INFORMATION CENTER FOR PENNSYLVANIA CONSTITUTION CONVENTION—Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE—Los Angeles and San Francisco, California

MOCK CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS—West Virginia

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS & FILMS

VOTING IS PEOPLE POWER, a manual on how to conduct successful inner-city registration and voting campaigns. Describes techniques for motivating inner-city citizens. Based on nine inner-city projects.

Financed by The Field, Sears-Roebuck and Tilarids Foundations

VOTING IS PEOPLE POWER, a sound filmstrip—shows inner-city residents that they can "move city hall".

Production Financd by The Ford Foundation

THE BIG WATER FIGHT, a book describing citizen action on case histories of League of Women Voters work at local, state, regional, and federal levels, often in cooperation with other civic groups. Stephen Greene Press, October 1966; 2nd printing March 1967.

Research and writing supported by a grant from Resources for the Future, Inc.

LAND AND WATER FOR TOMORROW, a handbook based on experience with Land and Water Use Projects in six regions. Designed to help civic and other groups to carry out similar leadership training projects.

Supported by a Demonstration Grant from the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, Department of the Interior

LET'S LOOK AT CHINA PUZZLE—slide films—charts, maps, pictures presenting the challenge of U.S.-China relations.

Production financed by the Institute for International Order

GETTING SOMETHING DONE—Describes how organizations can be effective and how meetings can advance such effectiveness. Prepared by the LWV of New York State, based on results of four conferences.

Financed by The Sears-Roebuck Foundation

MASSACHUSETTS VOTERS HANDBOOK
Prepared by the LWV of Massachusetts

HOW TO VOTE IN WASHINGTON
Prepared by the LWV of Washington

KNOW YOUR ALASKA STATE GOVERNMENT
Prepared by the LWV of Alaska

WHAT HAVE WE HERE? A Brief Look at the New Mexico Constitution
Prepared by the LWV of New Mexico

STUDY OF OKLAHOMA CONSTITUTION
Prepared by the LWV of Oklahoma

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1969

League of Women Voters

Education Fund

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12/30/67
Martin

Overseas Education Fund
of the League of Women Voters

OEF NEWS

December 1967

RUSSIAN EXCHANGE CONCLUDED

Though its field activities are concentrated in Latin America, OEF maintains contact with many other countries through its headquarters briefing programs and an occasional exchange program. One of the most unusual exchanges in recent memory was completed this Fall between OEF and the Soviet Women's Committee. It was made possible by a grant from the Institute for International Order.

In negotiation since 1963, the U.S. tour of four prominent Russian women leaders finally occurred in June of this year. Their visit to New York, Indianapolis, Denver, and Washington, where their activities were programmed and hosted by Leagues of Women Voters, was vividly reported by Mrs. George Little, OEF's First Vice President and their official escort. A copy of Mrs. Little's account of their travels is available to anyone who wishes to request it.

In September, four U.S. women, members of the League of Women Voters chosen for their records of leadership and service, paid a return visit as guests of the Soviet Women's Committee. They were Miss Barbara Stuhler, St. Paul, Minnesota, Associate Director of the World Affairs Center of the University of Minnesota and former Foreign Policy Chairman on the national Board of Directors of the League; Mrs. John Campbell, Indianapolis, Indiana, Chairman of the League's Education Fund; Dr. Doris Curtis, New Orleans, La., a geologist with Shell Oil Co. and former president of the Norman, Okla. League; and Mrs. Eugene Smith, Idaho Falls, Idaho, past president of the Idaho State League.

Miss Stuhler, Chairman of the Delegation, reported that the most vigorous debate between themselves and their hosts occurred not about Vietnam (where they simply regard our position as indefensible) but about the U.S. economic system. "We heard cliches from people who should have known better," she said.

But for the most part, their visit was marked by overwhelming hospitality. Miss Stuhler described the Russians as a loving people with a marvelous sense of humor. The U.S. delegation came away with a profound respect for their desire for a peace and for their concern with making their cities beautiful. While the country's intellectual progress has been uneven, its economic progress is real and considerable.

Miss Stuhler enjoyed one brief exchange with her interpreter. "I don't know whether you are workers or capitalists," said the puzzled young lady. To which Miss Stuhler replied, "We're both."

IN BOLIVIA, A CIVIC ORGANIZATION WINS PRAISE

Last June, OEF assisted the National Confederation of Women's Institutions (known as CONIF) in giving its second national development conference. Of major significance was the breadth of representation among the participants and observers. Women from the mines and urban workers' areas for the first time joined together to learn how citizens can work together on issues such as basic education, nutrition, health, and child welfare.

At the conclusion of the Workshop, the women of the mining district (where life is very hard and the average miner earns only the equivalent of forty American dollars a month) desired that a branch of CONIF be established in their area. As a result of this initial contact, CONIF sponsored a Civic Education Course for women from the mines during "Women's Week" in July. The course was given by the Alliance for Citizens Orientation under the auspices of CONIF.

PERSPECTIVES WORTH NOTING

From "The Peace Corps: A Revolutionary Force" by Frank Mankiewicz, Regional Director of Latin American Programs for the Peace Corps

"This is the mission of community development - a mission which consists of nothing more than a political turnabout in the country to which we are assigned. We are talking about situations in which 3 per cent of the people function effectively in a country and 97% do not. If that situation is to change to one in which the great bulk of outsiders become insiders, the non-participants become participants, and the oppressed and forgotten become a functioning part of the country, then that is nothing less than a revolution; and it is one that will be accomplished by political means."

"We talk about development - but the pure economic and physical development of the countries will be conducted eventually by the countries themselves, with United States assistance or without it. But the political and social development of the country can only come through the infusion of a kind of revolutionary spirit such as the Peace Corps represents and which more and more Latin American governments now welcome."

"If the aims of community development, as the Peace Corps sees it in Latin America, can be summed up in one sentence, it is that success is in sight, not when the economic statistics have reached a certain level, not when a certain number of miles of roads or cinderblock houses have been built, but when the forgotten and ignored have been invited to 'join the parade'."

From "A Perspective on International Development" by John F. Hilliard, A Ford Foundation Reprint

"One of the many extraordinary things about development is the difficulty of understanding what causes it; how it can be accelerated; what is an acceptable or desirable rate of change; what is the relationship between physical and social technology; and, in a larger sense, how political and economic systems of different sizes, shapes, and speeds can be geared to each other so that the machinery of world development can turn.

"Equally mysterious is why so far such little effort has been devoted to finding answers to these obviously crucial questions.

"For the first thirteen years of U.S. aid to underdeveloped countries, the aid agency had no organized program of research in the phenomena of development. In 1963 it established such a program, with 6 million dollars in funds, or about .003 percent of the AID annual expenditure. Although this original amount has risen it still bears no adequate relationship to the size of the expenditures for development. The international agencies and the private foundations have also given a low priority to research in the process of dynamics of development.

"It is an encouraging fact that the neglect of the past is gradually being relieved by a larger, broader, and more imaginative research program, both public and private; competence in this field is growing, in the underdeveloped as well as in the developed countries."

An extensive editorial appearing in Ultima Hora, a La Paz newspaper, praised the work being carried on by CONIF. The editorial concluded that "women sooner than men" have discovered "with astonishing clarity" that the salvation of Bolivia depends on the Bolivians themselves.

INSTITUTE V NEARS CONCLUSION

The largest (25 participants), shortest (four months) and most intensive Leadership Institute will complete its academic program in its new setting at Boston University this month and travel to Washington for a final week of field visits and graduation ceremonies.

The new Institute format - developed by OEF's Institute Committee together with Boston University personnel from Metrocenter, the Adult Education Department, and the Human Relations Center - has proved to be extremely effective. And the shorter length together with the eased requirements for facility in English (helpful but not necessary) has broadened the range of eligible candidates and brought increased representation from rural areas and a broader range of economic groups.

Conducting the Institute in Spanish has posed challenges but no insurmountable obstacles. Simultaneous translation equipment facilitated the visits of English speaking guests and lecturers. And Spanish speaking supervisors were located in all of the field work placements.

Field work has provided many rewarding experiences. Two participants, for example, are working with the 40 Spanish speaking families at the Columbia Point Housing Project. The Latin women in the project are now enrolling in English classes in the Boston School Department's adult education programs and in homemaking courses to learn child care, budgeting, and shopping techniques. With the encouragement of OEF's field workers, the Latin residents have also nominated, campaigned for and elected a bilingual candidate to the Community Development Council.

Also included in the busy Institute schedule are weekly lectures, discussions and analysis of "back home" problems, workshops on organization techniques, and observation visits to many community organizations and government agencies, plus a trip to New York for a briefing and tour of the United Nations. Leagues of Women Voters in the Boston area have provided not only home hospitality but the opportunity to see the League in action.

When the 25 young women return to their home communities at the end of December - in Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, Argentina, and Chile - they will almost immediately join with local leaders on teams to undertake national civic education projects as a fulfillment of their "intern year" for OEF.

DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR HELD IN WASHINGTON

In October, OEF conducted its seventh multinational seminar on civic development for women leaders from Latin American countries. Fourteen distinguished citizens from ten Latin American countries arrived for a two week seminar in Washington on "The Role of the Citizen in the Process of Development." The seminar was followed by a month's tour of U. S. cities to observe community programs in action.

The participants - with backgrounds in social welfare, education, community development, and law - were chosen by U. S. embassies in the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama to receive Leader Grants from the U. S. Department of State to attend the seminar.

Guest speakers presented techniques which can make organizations more effective and able to mobilize positive forces in a changing society. Among the featured speakers were Dr. Morales Carrion, Special Adviser to the Secretary General of the Organization of the American States; Dr. Jose Epstein of the Inter-American Development Bank; Sterling Tucker, Executive Director of the Washington Urban League; Mrs. William H. Wood, member of the National Board of the League of Women Voters; and Mrs. Merwin Phelps, President of the Prince George's County League. Dr. Caroline Ware, OEF Consultant, was program moderator; Mrs. Melvin Bergheim was the seminar director.

A GRACIOUS NEW CENTER FOR INTER-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

At 680 Park Avenue in New York City, there now exists a handsome new center, lauded by Vice President Humphrey at its Fall opening as "a showcase for the cultural achievements of Latin America, the Caribbean and Canada - a forum for the interchange of ideas and information."

The six-story mansion is the home of the Center for Inter-American Relations. In addition to its reception areas and meeting rooms, it serves as headquarters for the Council for Latin America, an organization composed of more than 200 business firms with interests in Latin America. David Rockefeller serves as Chairman of the Board for both the Council and the Center.

The purpose of the Center is to aid in bringing about more effective communication among those concerned with political, economic, and social development in this hemisphere. Its program will feature art and music, as well as seminars and lectures by world figures.

OEF has already enjoyed the Center's hospitality. It provided a gracious setting for the luncheon-evaluation session for the participants at our multinational seminar on civic development at the conclusion of their nationwide tour. And it was the scene of a small reception on November 27, which was to be hostessed by Miss Anna Lord Strauss. (Mrs. Little, our First Vice President was an able substitute when Miss Strauss made a sudden departure for a Vietnam tour at President Johnson's request.)

Honored guests at the reception were the 25 participants from the Leadership Institute at Boston University, who were in the city visiting the United Nations. The Center is itself indeed "a showcase," but it is its spirit of hospitality and cultural reciprocity which is its greatest contribution.

OEF'S ANNUAL GIVING PROGRAM IS UNDERWAY

Each Fall, OEF starts anew in building the financial resources for its plans and programs for the coming year. Approximately $100,000 in unrestricted support must be raised to make the work of the organization possible.

This support - which comes from our many friends, interested foundations, and enlightened business corporations - underwrites our basic planning and operating costs as well as many of our field activities. And it enables us to unify the projects which are supported by specific foundation grants and government contracts into programs with sequence and cumulative impact.

In the last five years, more than $1,000,000 has been channeled through the Overseas Education Fund into programs of information and assistance for citizens in other countries who are seeking to strengthen their democratic processes and institutions.

As a cumulative sum, this is impressive - just as the cumulative results grow increasingly impressive. But the underlying core of private support which has made it all possible has been the sum of many contributing individuals and organizations who have given us their consistent help and encouragement. We welcome - and need - all who share our goals as partners in the task.

OEF'S SIXTH INSTITUTE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLRETED

"Helping young Latin American women to discover that they themselves are their greatest potential resource for taking action in the community is one of the main objectives of the Institute program," stated Joyce Bowden, former member of the Peace Corps and now assistant director of training for OEF.

Focusing on this objective, the 1968 Institute, sponsored by OEF in cooperation with Metrocenter of Boston University, was an intensive four-month course in leadership training. The related group living, study and working experiences of the Institute program were shared by 18 women from ten Latin American countries. The participants were selected in cooperation with U.S. AID missions in these countries on the basis of their potential and their present contribution to their organizations and communities. Their attendance was made possible by AID missions fellowships.

The Institute program combined classroom work - social and economic studies, organizational practices and group dynamics - with actual involvement in community programs. In order to become familiar with the goals, methods and everyday problems that volunteer organizations in the United States encounter, each participant selected an agency that adopted her as a "willing volunteer" for a two week period. These placements were made throughout the state of Massachusetts with the generous assistance and hospitality of many local Leagues of Women Voters. This firsthand involvement in community work was one of the highlights of the Institute program, according to Mrs. Mildred G. Mersereau, Institute Director.

At the completion of their training, the young women traveled to Washington for a graduation ceremony at the White House, at which Mrs. Dean Rusk was hostess, before departing for their home countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru. Congressman F. Bradford Morse reminded the homeward-bound graduates, "You are the women-doers who will be a powerful force for change throughout the Hemisphere."

CIVIC PROGRAM GOES FORWARD IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

A little over a year ago, OEF launched a series of civic seminars in the Dominican Republic, at the invitation of that government's Office of Community Development, to encourage the strengthening of democratic grass-roots organizations and citizen participation in national development. The first involved the Women Governors and leading volunteers from the 26 Provinces. A distinguished observer from Tufts University commented, "I was very much impressed by the grass-roots work and the exciting civic/educational program of the Overseas Education Fund ... the OEF has performed its task extremely well under extremely difficult conditions and I only hope that it will continue and it will expand on its operations."

At the request of the Women Governors, an OEF team has just completed a second successful series on the "The Responsibility of Women in the Development Process." In October, a five-day conference helped the Governors to focus on their concerns in education, health, and service to youth. The Governors, now in their third year in office, have shown remarkable growth as leaders. In analyzing their experiences at the October conference, many dated their activities as "before" or "after" OEF seminars. Reports of additional conferences recently held will be in the next Newsletter.

EASTERN LEAGUES PROGRAM VISIT FOR THAI GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL

OEF undertook an unusual new assignment last Spring at the request of the Department of State when it arranged an intensive briefing and travel program for an election official from Thailand.

Mr. Sawai Purammani, who wrote the election section of Thailand's newly adopted constitution, was in the United States from March through June to study U.S. election procedures; he will supervise the local elections which will take place in Thailand this year. His travel program in this country was arranged with enthusiasm and skill by ten state Leagues of Women Voters and local Leagues in the District of Columbia and 19 other localities in the East.

In the course of his travels, Mr. Sawai met two governors, saw several presidential candidates, met many candidates for local office, talked to countless election officials, city councilmen, mayors, political science professors, businessmen, and a large number of his fellow citizens from Thailand studying at universities in the United States.

Although the Leagues' agenda planning was so thorough that Mr. Sawai had to ask time out for a haircut, he was enthusiastic about his experiences and advocated that all visitors to the U.S. should have the kind of hospitality that had been extended to him. His program concluded with a course on American government at the University of Connecticut, where his professors said that he knew more about the subject than most American citizens. The Department of State has asked OEF to make itself available for future projects of this kind. Through its links with Leagues of Women Voters throughout the country, OEF can provide briefing and exchange programs of unusual depth for foreign visitors.

OEF BEGINS NEW SERVICE FOR U.S. WOMEN GOING ABROAD

1947 was the year the Overseas Education Fund was founded and also the first year of the Marshall Plan, which many feel started the great trek of American families living abroad in government and military service.

Today, with approximately 1,800,000 Americans (including 250,000 family groups) now living outside the boundaries of the United States, there is a need often expressed - particularly in the Washington area - for some sort of orientation service for women who want to be informed and useful temporary citizens in the countries they are visiting. This Fall, OEF introduced a one-day seminar to assist "The U.S. Woman Abroad."

The idea for the seminar was suggested by Mr. James Fowler, Deputy U.S. Coordinator for the State Department, and a special advisory committee of distinguished women was formed to work on the planning. The result was a program on September 27 challenging enough to attract 35 participants representing 13 different organizations.

The morning session on "Relating to Individuals Abroad" was ably conducted by Mrs. Alison Raymond Lanier, author of "Half the World's People" and presently Director of Overseas Briefing Associates. An afternoon panel discussed "Discovering and Relating to the Community and Its Existing Organizations," reminding the participants of many do's and don'ts as well as answering some specific questions.

The seminar was very well received and resulted in many constructive suggestions which will be incorporated into its format. At its conclusion, Mrs. Dean Rusk, who attended, commented that OEF had taken a positive step toward making the participants more interested and more interesting visiting citizens.

On February 6, another successful seminar was held, attracting 18 participants representing 14 different groups. The day's program was devoted to the techniques involved in volunteer service abroad.

MULTI-NATIONAL SEMINAR OFFERED FOR NINTH TIME

"New insights...new attitudes...fresh motivation" -- this, according to the participants is what they would be taking back to their homelands from OEF's Ninth Multi-National Leadership Training Seminar for Latin American women civic leaders, held in October and November.

The Seminar is one of the ways in which OEF is giving technical assistance in the field of community development through leadership training as part of its Latin American program. The 1968 Seminar consisted of a 37-day integrated study-travel program for 14 women from six Central and five South American countries who attended on Leader Grants from the Department of State.

Widely divergent backgrounds were represented within the group -- three from the field of education, a state senator, a municipal counselor, a lawyer, an economist, an accountant, a professor of social work, two social workers, a nursing instructor and a public relations specialist.

The Seminar began in Washington where the processes that lead to understanding of community needs were explored. Methods of investigation and problem solving were studied and opportunities for the participants to practice leadership techniques were utilized. This two week period also included lectures by professional and volunteer specialists from many fields; among the distinguished speakers were Sterling Tucker of the National Urban League, Frank Mankiewicz, columnist and former Press Secretary to Senator Robert Kennedy, and national officers of the League of Women Voters.

Following the Washington-based program, the group began three weeks of travel to selected towns and cities in the East to see in action the work that is being carried on by governmental, private and voluntary organizations. Arrangements and home hospitality provided by Leagues in Chapel Hill, New Haven, Minneapolis, Bloomington, and New York, programmed sight-seeing, and a visit to the United Nations added to the group's experience.

At the conclusion of the travel program, each participant agreed that she had gained a new personal awareness of the individual and group roles related to community understanding and growth. En route to their homes, the group stopped in Puerto Rico for more field visits and League-arranged program.

Here is how one participant summarized her experience: "Now that I have seen the inter-relationship among the social, economic and political factors that contribute to community development, I can understand why these areas must move forward together. And I now realize the importance of respecting community opinions and for consulting community wishes in developing programs and projects. I'm taking back a new approach to the people with whom I work."

Overseas Education Fund
of the League of Women Voters

OEF NEWS

March, 1969

MAR 17 RECD

TO THE GRADUATES OF OEF INSTITUTE VI
(Excerpts from a talk by
Congressman F. Bradford Morse)
At The White House Ceremony, December 19, 1968

"It is a great honor for me to congratulate you today on what I know has been a rigorous, but challenging program....I have always thought that the kind of activities conducted by the Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women Voters represents one of the most important investments we can make in development...

Today is a day for satisfaction and fulfillment for you all. Your successful completion of this Institute reflects, I know, a sacrifice on your part. You left family and career to spend four months strengthening your capacity and that of your community for self-sufficiency and self-fulfillment. You can be proud of what you have achieved.

But the true sense of pride and achievement will be tested by your activities when you return home. Hopefully what you have learned here and witnessed in observing groups and activities, both successful and unsuccessful, will not only increase your ability to get things done, but will strengthen your resolve to involve more and more of our friends in the home Hemisphere in their own progress and development...

It is often said in jest that whenever three North Americans get together they automatically form a committee. That is probably an exaggeration, but there is no doubt that without the persistent, and often courageous, efforts by citizens groups, our society would be vastly weaker. Our consumer products would not be tested for safety and health, women would not be able to vote, our highways would be forever studded with ugly bill boards, our hospitals, clinics and schools would be of lesser quality.

Whether the goal is national beautification, or the installation of street lights in a Latin American barrio, the spirit of cooperation that gets the job done is the very same. This is a spirit you obviously share and one that I hope you will instill in those with whom you work in your home countries.

One of the principal barriers to progress, as you all know, is the sense of hopelessness -- a feeling that nothing will ever be any different or any better. Once that barrier is overcome even with the slightest success, each subsequent goal will seem easier to achieve, the number of individuals involved will be greater and your community will be strong and united as you work together for development.

We have a long way to go here in the United States as I'm sure you have observed. Our problems differ in kind, but not in perplexity. Learning from each other as you -- and we -- have done over these past four months, our Hemisphere will achieve the steady progress for all our citizens that is, after all, the principal objective of our Alliance for Progress."

Participation in a Developing Society

The Leadership Institute, established in 1963, is designed to train promising young women from Latin America and the United States to teach and to foster the skills, understanding and techniques of citizen participation in a democratic society.

The only educational offering of its kind, the Institute is a uniquely creative partnership in international education utilizing advisory services, facilities and supporting personnel provided by both the Overseas Education Fund and Boston University.

As a Laboratory in Community Participation and Leadership, developed jointly by the Overseas Education Fund and Boston University, the Institute combines the study of theories of social and political change, the structure and methods of organizations, and group and individual dynamic processes with applied experience in community organizations concerned with a variety of human needs.

The voluntary aspects of citizenship are emphasized. At the same time the participants are viewed as potential leaders who must acquire and utilize professional skills in bringing about social and civic progress in developing countries.

Participants

The 25 young women who attend each session of the Leadership Institute are selected from countries designated by the Overseas Education Fund. The 1967 Institute is composed of candidates from Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, Argentina, and Chile. Young women from Panama and the Central American countries comprised the 1966 Institute, and earlier Institutes were composed of representatives from Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, and Argentina.

Participants are selected by the Institute Admissions Committee after personal interviews with an Overseas Education Fund representative. They must be sponsored by a civic or service organization in their community which expects to utilize their skills in a voluntary or professional capacity following their training. They are expected to serve a post-Institute internship during which they contribute to or initiate civic education projects in their home communities under the guidance of a Fund field representative.

Candidates should have a university education or its equivalent and a demonstrated commitment to and capacity for civic or social service. Past participants have been teachers, social workers, executive secretaries, librarians, lawyers, and volunteer community leaders. Although most Institute training is conducted in Spanish and Boston University specialists provide intensive English language instruction, some ability to use the English language is necessary.

A FIELD WORK VISIT TO A SCHOOL FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN WHICH WORKS WITH BOTH CHILDREN AND PARENTS.

INSTITUTE MEMBERS ATTEND A BRIEFING ON WORKING WITH VOLUNTEERS IN COMMUNITY PROJECTS.

At the discretion of the Admissions Committee and depending on the availability of privately financed fellowships, one or two young women from the United States may be enrolled as training fellows. They should be bilingual college graduates, preferably with work experience, who are exploring avenues to a career in international relations or social service. In addition to participating in the program, they serve as tutorial aides and facilitate the adjustment of Institute participants.

Program

The Institute calendar is divided into 16 weekly units with each focusing on a specific aspect of the individual in relation to the family, the community, the voluntary organization, democratic government, and the national, regional and world community.

Each topic is first presented in lecture-discussions conducted by Boston University faculty and experts from other universities, government and civic organizations. Seminars and workshops emphasize the study of relevant theory and the practice and evaluation of leadership roles and training and development techniques. Special emphasis is also placed on analysis of the community needs in the participants' home countries and on organizational methods and structures

MRS. LYNDON JOHNSON LOOKS ON AS MRS. JOHN BRISCOE, PRESIDENT OF THE OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND, PRESENTS GRADUATION CERTIFICATE TO ANA GERTRUDIS RODRIGUEZ OF PANAMA, DURING COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES AT THE WHITE HOUSE, APRIL, 1967.

which lead to effective democratic action. A continuing focus on human relations provides a new setting for much of the participants' learning. Awareness and skill in group dynamics at work are developed through special training sessions and through the organization and operation of a house council which governs the participants' residence while attending the Institute.

Field work is an integral part of this educational experience. Through the cooperation of governmental and civic agencies in metropolitan Boston, the participants receive supervised on-the-job training. The participants spend one day each week at assigned agencies becoming directly involved in programs constructed to meet special community needs and thereby providing more than mere observation. In addition, participation in the Massachusetts Leagues of Women Voters provides insight into the philosophy and operation of this voluntary citizens' association.

A field trip to New York City includes visits to the United Nations and briefings by U.N. personnel as well as a view of the activities of international and labor organizations headquartered there. The final Institute week is held in Washington, D.C., to provide first-hand observation of national and international government agencies at work, particularly on regional programs for Latin America.

Expenses

Program expenses for the Latin American participants are underwritten by the Overseas Education Fund through a grant from the Agency for International Development. These expenses include international transportation, tuition, room and board, field travel, and a small per diem allowance to meet personal needs.

Since the Institute's founding in 1963, A.I.D. has provided major support in recognition of its contribution to international civic education. Private support has been contributed by the Rockefeller Foundation and other donors.

Overseas Education Fund

The Overseas Education Fund was established in 1947 by the League of Women Voters "to impart to men and women everywhere a knowledge of the principles and operations of self-government." Incorporated under its present name in 1961, the Fund concentrates its services in Central and South America.

In addition to its Leadership Institute and field staff, who serve as consultants to Latin American organizations seeking to develop in-country programs of citizen education, the Fund conducts training programs at its Washington headquarters and makes available publications, manuals and other training aids. These services and programs are available to women leaders of all countries.

For more information write:

Mrs. John Briscoe, President
Overseas Education Fund of the
League of Women Voters

[redacted]

Boston University

Boston University, one of the nation's largest private institutions of higher education, provides the Institute participants with a blend of international and urban settings.

More than 450 international students are enrolled in the University's 16 Schools and Colleges, and many participate in the varied programs of such organizations as the International Student Center.

Here, too, are available specialists trained to teach English to foreign students, to impart the techniques and dynamics of human relations, and to explore theory and practice in the development of citizen participation and leadership in a democracy.

Located in the heart of a major metropolitan area, Boston University is committed to leadership and involvement in the community. In 1965, the University reaffirmed this commitment when it consolidated its community service, research and continuing education activities into Metrocenter. Because the Institute program has been developed through the Office of Conference Development of Metrocenter, it has access to not only the total resources of the University but also to those of the community.

Participation in a Developing Society

THE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
OF THE OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND
OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
IN COOPERATION WITH
METROCENTER
BOSTON UNIVERSITY
SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER, 1967

12/30/67 Martin

Participation in a Developing Society

THE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
OF THE OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND
OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
IN COOPERATION WITH
METROCENTER
BOSTON UNIVERSITY
SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER, 1967

participation

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS EDUCATION FUND

[redacted]

This goes on the Duplicate
President's Mailing

JANUARY 1, 1969

TO: Local and State League Presidents
FROM: League of Women Voters Education Fund
SUBJECT: Inner City Citizenship Education Project Newsletter

In 1967 the Education Fund, with a grant from the Ford Foundation, established citizen centers in inner-city neighborhoods in Baltimore, Boston and Philadelphia. Under the direction of local committees made up of representatives of neighborhood organizations and local Leagues of Women Voters, the centers are developing programs on issues, leadership development and techniques of citizen action. Inner city people and League members are working together and learning from one another.

In 1968 the Inner City Citizenship Education projects were re-funded by Ford with additional funds for centers in Chester, New Orleans and Los Angeles. With funds from this Ford Foundation grant and from the Sears-Roebuck Foundation, the St. Louis LWV provides requested services and support to inner city residents on a city-wide basis.

The ICCE Project Newsletter was developed as a way of sharing news, experiences and techniques among Leagues and citizens in the seven cities. During the last few months we have had hundreds of requests from Leagues and anti-poverty groups and interested individuals who would like to receive the ICCE Project Newsletter. We invite you:

To look over our shoulders at what's happening in the inner city and in suburbs as Leaguers and inner city residents combine their talents to assure maximum informed citizen participation for all citizens. We invite you to share with us in our projects' trials and triumphs.

PROJECT NEWS is a rundown, city by city, on new and continuing activities. NON-PROJECT NEWS keeps abreast of other experimental programs around the country. THE MONEY TREE gives concrete information on tax exemption, free resources, fund-raising and more. RESOURCE MATERIALS provides a continuing low-cost bibliography of useful tools geared to inner city work. PROBLEM SOLVING SWAP SHOP enables readers to ask the entire mailing list for ideas and techniques on particular problems and situations.

Although written specifically for those working in the ICCE Projects, the ICCE Newsletter will interest all Leagues. You can't all be in Baltimore, Boston, Chester, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, New Orleans or St. Louis – but you can be involved vicariously by subscribing to their Newsletter. Return the enclosed form with your check.

For $3.50 you will receive nine (9) issues of the Newsletter. Your first packet will contain the September, October, November-December and January issues. They deal with the Mainstream subjects mentioned above. The Newsletter will then arrive monthly through June 1969. It is available to both Leagues and individuals.

JAN 8 RECD

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS EDUCATION FUND

[redacted]

Enclosed is a check for $ _____ for the following subscriptions to the ICCE Project Newsletter. Please send to:

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NOTE: All subscriptions must be prepaid.

League of Women Voters of the U.S.

[redacted]

October 8, 1969

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES SENATE

Statement of Mrs. Bruce B. Benson, President
League of Women Voters of the United States
Concerning H.R. 13270

I am Mrs. Bruce B. Benson of Amherst, Massachusetts, President of the League of Women Voters of the United States. I am appearing in behalf of the League and our two affiliated organizations, the Overseas Education Fund and the Education Fund. The League, which will be 50 years old next year, is an organization of nearly 160,000 members in 1285 local Leagues in the 50 states, the Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia. During its history, the League throughout the country has been actively involved in working to increase citizen participation in government at all levels. Through election Voters Service the League encourages people to register and to vote and helps them to vote as informed citizens by providing objective nonpartisan information about candidates and pro and con information on issues. Our Voters Service work is not limited to election time. Throughout the year, the League works to involve people in learning about and participating in government and politics at all levels.

Overseas Education Fund

In 1947 the League of Women Voters of the United States established a nonprofit, educational affiliate now known as the Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women Voters. This was in response to requests coming to the League from individuals and organizations of other countries for assistance in developing responsible citizenship and effective civic organizations. It is the goal of the Overseas Education Fund to encourage and assist the development of citizen initiative, participation, and action in other countries within the framework of their own culture and to help voluntary groups work together to identify realistically their needs and envolve ways of meeting them. The methods employed by the Overseas Education Fund include briefing and scheduling travel of nationals of other countries who are in the United States and interested in aspects of United States government; conducting annual seminars for women community leaders from Latin America to observe citizenship and volunteer activity in the United States; and administering a four-month Institute presently based at Boston University for foreign women leaders which focuses on organization techniques and citizen involvement in community programs and includes field work in Boston and surrounding communities. Field representatives provide technical assistance and consultative services in organization techniques to groups in other countries upon request. The program is carried out through carefully coordinated efforts of volunteers and professional staff.

Education Fund

In 1957 the League established the Education Fund to promote and carry out nonpartisan citizenship education within the United States. The work of the Education Fund falls into two categories: communicating to other organizations and individuals the experiences and techniques in citizen education that the League of Women Voters has developed over the years and, where these established techniques lack effectiveness, to carry out experimental projects resulting, hopefully, in adaptations that will be more effective. Specifically under these two categories the

Education Fund has made surveys of local and state government structure for distribution in local communities, has disseminated information on selected issues of the day, and has helped teach citizen groups methods of stimulating the registration and involvement of voters. The Education Fund has no membership of its own. It depends upon the grass-roots support of League members in the 1285 local Leagues from coast to coast and of citizens who are not League members to carry out its activities.

Effects of H.R. 13270, the Tax Reform Act of 1969

The League understands the concern of Congress regarding the misuses of funds by some foundations and is sympathetic with the problems of writing legislation which will prohibit "self-dealing" and at the same time permit private resources to be used to encourage informed citizen participation in government. It appears to us, however, that the proposed legislation on private foundations goes far beyond what is necessary to remedy any known abuses. To avoid duplicating the testimony of others, I shall address myself only to the provisions which raise serious problems for the League of Women Voters Education Fund and the Overseas Education Fund.

Difficulty of Distinguishing Between Private Foundation and Public Charity

The League of Women Voters is a social welfare organization exempt under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Education Fund and the Overseas Education Fund are exempt under section 501(c)(3) and contributions to them are tax deductible. We believe that both of these Funds are publicly-supported charities, but the line between private foundations as defined in proposed section 509 and public charities appears to be a shadowy one. Under the mechanical test set forth in section 1.170-2(b)(5) of the Income Tax Regulations, defining a "publicly supported" organization under current law, an organization may be public one year and private the next. Because of the rule excluding from the category of public support that portion of large contributions which exceeds 1 percent of the organization's total support for a prescribed period, it is possible for one unusually large contribution to change the status of the organization overnight from public to private. This same situation would exist under the provisions of H.R. 13270.

Both the Education Fund and the Overseas Education Fund depend heavily for their support upon contributions from private foundations. Under proposed section 4942, contributions to nonoperating private foundations are excluded from the definition of "qualified distributions" and therefore will not help a donor foundation avoid the tax on undistributed income. Unless it is absolutely clear that the Education Fund and the Overseas Education Fund are <u>not</u> nonoperating private foundations, we have reason to fear that private foundations will withhold their contributions to these Funds -- contributions which are vital to the continuation of their work in teaching the responsibilities of citizenship.

Inability to Qualify as Operating Foundation

The definition of an "operating foundation" in the proposed section 4942(j)(3) appears to exclude the Education Fund and the Overseas Education Fund for a variety of reasons. For example, if the present 50th Anniversary Campaign for $11 million to expand our work over a ten-year period is successful, both the Education Fund and the Overseas Education Fund will have substantial endowment and reserve funds and could not meet the requirement of subparagraph (b)(i) that substantially more than half of their assets be devoted directly to the active conduct of their educational programs. Their income from Government grants might also prevent them from meeting the alternative test of subparagraph (B)(ii). The

Education Fund, but not the Overseas Education Fund, might also fail under subparagraph (A) if its grants to the League of Women Voters for specific educational projects were not construed as direct expenditures for the active conduct of its program.

Accordingly, unless a narrower and more practical definition of private foundation can be devised, organizations like the Education Fund and the Overseas Education Fund stand in constant jeopardy and the significant public service which they render to this nation may be severely curtailed. At the very least an opportunity should be provided for organizations to clarify their status before the new strictures on private foundations are made effective. Perhaps the effective date could be deferred until some time after the Treasury Department has promulgated its final regulations under the new statute. In addition we support the very helpful proposal made by the Treasury Department in its Technical Memorandum of September 30, 1969, that distributions to private foundations be considered "qualified" if the recipient organization applies the contributions directly to charitable activities within one year of receipt.

Exposure to Drastic Penalties

We are also greatly disturbed over the provisions of proposed section 4945 which impose a 100 percent tax on private foundations and a 50 percent tax on foundation managers for any amounts expended

"(1) to carry out propaganda, or otherwise attempt to influence legislation,"

or

"(2) to influence the outcome of any public election (including voter registration drives carried on by or for such foundation)."

With respect to the first of these provisions, attempting to influence legislation, an exception is made if the activity is limited to "making available the results of nonpartisan analysis or research." Any organization operating in the area of citizen education and dealing with subjects of civic concern runs the risk that those to whom the results of its analysis and research are displeasing will attack the nonpartisan character of the work or charge that the organization has gone beyond merely making the results available. The risk is intrinsic to educational work in the field of government and politics. Present law respects honest and fair educational efforts and provides a safety valve for error or misunderstanding through the "substantiality rule." No such safety valve exists in the proposed legislation, and organizations like the Education Fund, never certain whether in any particular year they will be held public or private, can continue to function only at great peril.

Let me cite an example. With funds provided by the Department of Interior and various foundations and with the assistance of hundreds of volunteer workers from the League of Women Voters, the Education Fund studied the problem of pollution of our waterways, held seminars, and produced a book and a number of brochures designed to increase public understanding of this dangerous problem. Undoubtedly there are and there will be proposals before the federal and state legislatures attempting to solve the problem of water pollution, with sharp differences of opinion as to the need for the restrictions and expenditures involved. Under such circumstances, when unrelated persons may attempt to make partisan use of the Fund's studies, it may be difficult for the Fund to defend the nonpartisan character of its analysis and research.

With respect to the second provision previously quoted, relating to the influencing of elections, it is also conceivable that anti-pollution legislation may become an issue in some election battle. At this point expenditures made for an objective study may be attacked as amounts paid to influence the outcome of a public election,

in violation of section 4945(b)(2), as to which, it should be noted, no exception is provided for "making available the results of nonpartisan analysis and research."

In view of such possibilities, should the Education Fund be subject to the risk of a 100 percent penalty tax and its officers, directors, trustees and key employees be subject to the risk of a 50 percent penalty tax? The 50 percent penalty on foundation managers is imposed only if they make the expenditure "knowing that it is a taxable expenditure." At the very least, should not the same good-faith defense be available to the Fund itself?

Inadequacy of Special Provision for Nonpartisan Activities

Both the Treasury and the Ways and Means Committee have recognized the value of the nonpartisan work done by the League of Women Voters Education Fund in connection with voter education and registration and have tried to make it clear through a Treasury press release of May 9, 1969, and through a statement on page 34 of the Committee Report that the proposed legislation was not intended to inhibit such activities by the Fund. Unfortunately, if the Education Fund is determined to be a private foundation, the statute as drafted may not provide the intended relief. Among other things, the proposed section 4945(d), excluding from taxable expenditures "nonpartisan activities carried on by certain organizations," which was drafted with the Education Fund in mind, requires that substantially all of the income be expended directly for the active conduct of the Fund's program* -- a requirement which may be difficult to meet if, as part of its program, the Education Fund continues to make grants to the League of Women Voters for its traditional nonpartisan voter education programs, such as its panel discussions between candidates, its factual presentation of their stated positions on the issues, and its voter registration drives. In any event, section 4945(d) deals only with the prohibition in section 4945(b)(2) on influencing public elections and leaves the Education Fund fully exposed on the proscription of section 4945(b)(1) against attempting to influence legislation, with the hazardous consequences previously mentioned.

Conclusion

The League of Women Voters and its affiliated organizations have a long and honorable record of constructive nonpartisan service to this nation. Unless the new legislation makes it absolutely clear that organizations like the Education Fund and the Overseas Education Fund are not to be treated as private foundations, enormous damage will be done. Furthermore, with respect to all organizations doing honest work in the area of political education, whether they are private foundations or public charities, a decent respect for human frailty requires either that the substantiality test be restored with respect to influencing legislation or that the penalty tax be limited to willful and premeditated attempts to influence legislation or the outcome of an election.

We believe that even more intensified efforts are needed in our society to involve more citizens at all levels of government; that a responsible democracy depends on citizens learning the importance and the responsibility of voting and of participating in the democratic process. Private philanthropy plays a significant role in supporting the educational work needed to achieve the goal of an informed and active electorate. H.R. 13270 appears to go further than necessary to correct the abuses which have been revealed in the operation of private charitable foundations. We hope this Committee will make the proper changes.

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*Paragraph (3) of Section 4945(d). Paragraph (2), which requires that the principal activity be "nonpartisan political activity in 5 or more States," may also be troublesome for semantic reasons -- the Education Fund is engaged principally in nonpartisan educational work, which may or may not be embraced within the term "political activity."

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Caroline D. Wood, League of Women Voters of the USA
Margaret Zemo, Catholic Association for International Peace

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1968

9:30 Plenary session: "Strengthening the Political Will for Development Aid"
Moderator: William Clark, Director of Information and Public Affairs, World Bank
Panelists: Robert Bowie, Director, Center for International Affairs, Harvard University
Maurice Strong, Director, External Aid Office, Government of Canada (invited)
Gordon Hawkins, Executive Secretary, Canadian Institute of International Affairs (invited)
Samuel P. Hayes, President, Foreign Policy Association (invited)

12:30 Closing luncheon: "The United States and the Less Developed Countries: A Look Ahead"
Speaker: A spokesman from the new Administration

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

The International Development Conference has served since 1952 as a vital platform for American organizations and individuals concerned with the necessity for raising living standards and fostering economic and social growth among the underdeveloped regions of the world. The Conference is a forum for the exchange of experience, information, and ideas. Participants in the annual meetings and workshops organized by the Conference have represented a broad cross-section of American life, including business, labor and farm groups, religious and women's organizations, cooperatives, educational and civic interests, as well as representatives of government and international agencies.

The program for this 1968 Conference has been organized by a Program Committee consisting of:

Mrs. Martha Mills, *Chairman*

Robert E. Asher	Isaiah Frank
Msgr. Marvin Bordelon	Robert Marshall
Rowland Burstan	Frances Neely
Rev. L. Maynard Catchings	Elizabeth Scott

Registration: Advance registration is desirable and will considerably speed conference procedures. You may use the attached registration form, or you may register by letter addressed to the Conference Coordinator at the address below. The registration fee is $10, luncheons are $6 each and the dinner is $8.25. A "package" registration rate, including all meals, is $27.50. **Organizations desiring to register four or more people should inquire about a special multiple registration rate.** Badges and tickets will be held for you at the Registration Desk.

Hotel: All sessions will be held at the Statler-Hilton Hotel, 16th and K Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20013. Hotel reservations should be made directly with the hotel, specifying attendance at this conference. Hotel rates per night are $19.00 for a single room and $26.00 for a twin-bedded room, if reservations are made at least two weeks in advance.

Exhibits: There will be a display of literature and other material related to the conference theme in the Upper Lobby of the hotel, adjacent to the Registration Desk.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE
Suite 1007
1012 Fourteenth Street, N.W.
[redacted]

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

For the entire conference, including registration fee, Wednesday coffee and luncheon, Thursday dinner, and Friday luncheon, there is a special rate of $27.50.

Conference Coordinator
International Development Conference
Suite 1007
1012 14th Street, N.W.
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Overcoming World Poverty: Strategy for the Seventies

WHY THIS CONFERENCE MEETS

Poverty is a world-wide phenomenon, within nations and among nations. Economic and social development—to overcome poverty and to provide greater opportunities for all—demands our attention both at home and abroad.

We need a strategy to mobilize our resources so as to use them effectively to overcome the poverty gap throughout the world. We have accomplished much and learned much in our efforts thus far, but today we seek fresh approaches, new methods, and wider understanding of the task before us

To focus on these issues, we meet together on the eve of a new Administration in government and on the threshold of a new decade.

Preliminary Program

(Program participants are listed as of September 16, 1968. Other participants are being invited.)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1968

10:00 Registration and exhibits open in the Upper Lobby. Complimentary coffee served until noon.

12:30 Opening Conference Luncheon: "The Imperatives of Development"
Speaker: The Rt. Hon. Lester Pearson, Chairman of the newly-established Commission on International Development and former Prime Minister of Canada (invited)

2:30 Plenary session: "Combatting Poverty at Home and Abroad —Can America Afford Both?"

Moderator: Rev. L. Maynard Catchings, United Church of Christ
Panelists: The Honorable Jerome Cavanaugh, Mayor of Detroit (invited)
Joseph A. Pechman, Director, Economic Studies, The Brookings Institution (invited)
Reactor: Hyman Bookbinder, Washington Representative, American Jewish Committee and former Assistant Director, Office of Economic Opportunity

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1968

9:30 Simultaneous Panel Sessions

I. A Phased Transition to Multilateral Aid?
Moderator: Robert E. Asher, The Brookings Institution
Panelists: Paul G. Clark, Assistant Administrator for Program and Policy Coordination, Agency for International Development
Max F. Millikan, Director, Center for International Studies, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Albert Waterston, Economic Development Institute, World Bank

II. Enlarging the Flow of Resources to the Less Developed Countries: Tapping the Full Range of Resources
Moderator: Msgr. Marvin Bordelon, Secretariat for World Justice and Peace, U.S. Catholic Conference

III. Obstacles to Development in the Developing Countries
Moderator: George Baldwin, Assistant Director, Economic Development Institute. World Bank
Panelists: Philander P. Claxton, Special Assistant to the Secretary for Population Matters, Department of State
Lyle P. Hansen, Economic Adviser, Africa Department, World Bank

2:30 Simultaneous Panel Sessions

IV. Foreign Aid: Continued East-West Competition or Increased Cooperation?
Panelists: Rahmatullah Asifi, Cultural Attache, Embassy of Afghanistan
Paul-Marc Henri, Assistant Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (invited)
Milton Kovner, Lecturer, The Johns Hopkins University

V. New Proposals for Administering U.S. Development Aid
Co-Chairmen: C. Tyler Wood and Harriett S. Crowley, Agency for International Development

VI. Regional Development: Cooperative Arrangements, Difficulties and Future Outlook

6:00 Reception and Social Hour

7:30 Dinner: Awards to be presented
Speakers: "World Poverty, Revolutionary Crisis, and Complacent Affluence"
Lady Barbara Ward Jackson, Columbia University (invited)
"Multilateral Aid: Problems and Prospects"
Sir Robert Jackson, United Nations Development Programme (invited)

OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

ANNUAL REPORT 1968-69

NOV 20 RECD

OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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The President's Message

As the League of Women Voters of the United States celebrates its fiftieth anniversary, we at the Overseas Education Fund — one of the League's two educational affiliates — are reflecting on what twenty-two years of service to friends in other lands has meant to us and to the League. The Overseas Education Fund is basically a channel for adapting the accumulated experience of a U. S. voluntary organization, the League of Women Voters, to the task of social development in other parts of the world.

The League did not seek a new kind of responsibility which came to it at the close of World War II. Rather, requests coming to it from our own government as well as from individuals all over the world made it necessary for the League to establish an educational, tax-exempt fund. (Unlike the League, the Overseas Education Fund has no membership and is partially supported by public funds. It is not subsidized by the League, its name notwithstanding.) This Fund was designed "to increase the knowledge of individual men and women in all parts of the world about the structures, functions, techniques and problems of government." Initially requests for assistance came from women in Japan, Italy and Germany who wished to learn how citizens can relate to and influence government. Today the Overseas Education Fund works with men and women leaders from the developing countries.

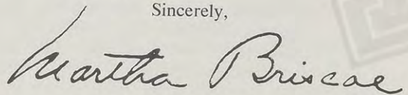
The purpose of the LWV is "to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government." The goal of the Overseas Education Fund is "to encourage and assist, within the framework of the national cultures of other countries, the development of citizen initiative, participation and action." It is evident that the central purpose of the two organizations may be construed as identical — to educate for responsible citizenship within the democratic concept.

The League has done invaluable pioneer work in the area of citizenship education, an activity of recognized and mounting importance as human societies become more complex, more interdependent and beset with problems of a magnitude unknown to previous ages. The need for providing these educational services is no less acute abroad than it is at home. No degree of military might will give the United States as much influence as will a successful demonstration of a people skilled and mature in the practice of self-government. This training is a commodity worthy of export; it is one which will bring to the United States a high rate of return; it is what OEF does export.

All of us who have worked with men and women of foreign countries have an abiding gratitude to them for the experience they bring to us. They not only enormously sharpen our understanding of ourselves and our ways of conducting the public business, but they bring us an immeasurable deepening of our own perceptions by sharing with us their cultures and values. We are strengthened in our convictions when we discover how closely related are our concerns and goals and how much we can achieve together.

With these thoughts in mind, we wish to congratulate the League on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary. We are proud to be a part of the League complex.

Sincerely,



Mrs. John D. Briscoe
President

NEW DIRECTIONS IN TRAINING

OEF'S TRAINING PROGRAMS for citizen leaders take place in Latin America and in the United States. They are open to men and women — some are open only to women — from other countries and are designed to include Americans as well. This year OEF actively explored the possibility of establishing a field services program for Asian women. In Washington OEF introduced a seminar for American women going abroad for the first time.

In Latin America OEF continued to counsel the national women's organizations and community groups with which it has worked over the years. This year OEF conducted two intermediate or middle-level training programs, one in Guatemala City for Central Americans and one in the Dominican Republic. These new training programs were designed for women who have had some adult education. They are intermediate in the sense that they are the most comprehensive and intensive programs to have been given by OEF overseas. The curriculum for these *cursos* or regional training programs serves as a stepping stone between the four-month OEF Institute in Boston and the traditional week or ten-day OEF-sponsored workshop in the field. Although it is early to evaluate these programs, they are representative of the way in which OEF responds to new needs as they are articulated by the people it is training in community development.

TRAINING IN LATIN AMERICA

Central America

Representative activities of the organizations counseled by OEF are:

Costa Rica — The *Organizacíon de Ciudadanas Costarricenses* is carrying out a preparatory survey for the establishment of a national umbrella organization for voluntary associations.

Governor Nelson Rockefeller chats with members of the Organización de Ciudadanas Costarricenses.

El Salvador — The *Organización de Ciudadanas Salvadoreñas* gave a training course for volunteers from the *Asociación Demográfica Salvadoreña.*

Guatemala — The *Alianza Cívica de Asociaciones Femeninas* sponsored a seminar on various aspects of municipal government in cooperation with the *Instituto Nacional de Administración para el Desarollo.*

The *Organización Guatemalteca de Ciudadanas,* having drafted and approved its by-laws, is working on a program of voter orientation for the national general elections of 1970.

Honduras — The *Organización Hondureña de Ciudadanas* has drafted its by-laws and has begun to clean up the "San Isidro" market of Comayaguela.

Nicaragua — The *Organización Cívica Nicaragüense de Ciudadanas* is working on a program of civic education for leaders active in low-income areas. The *OCN* is preparing a *Handbook for Citizens.*

Panama — *The Unión de Ciudadanas Panameñas* held a training seminar on "Women in Community Service." Its most important project at present is the extension of its civic activities to the interior of the Republic.

"Madam Passive" and "Madam Apathetic" in a role-play sponsored by the Unión de Ciudadanas Panameñas

Dra. Graciela Quan has represented OEF in Central America since 1963, and this year OEF added a junior field representative to assist her. The two field representatives do follow-up work with former OEF trainees, work with volunteer groups, organizations of women citizens which have been established in each country of Central America, and with federations of women's organizations. They also train these groups in organizational techniques for civic education through regional Central American programs and through short courses offered in cooperation with local volunteer organizations.

The most important regional training event of the year was the Central American Training Program, held from April 11 to April 30, 1969, in Guatemala City which had as its theme: Central America Today. This residential *curso* was designed to meet the needs of women who had already received some

adult education. There were 36 participants (including four North American women) from six Central American countries. The Central American Training Program was the first middle-level or intermediate training program to be given by OEF outside of the United States. Its curriculum was modeled after that of the OEF Institute and included social change in Central America, organizational skills and group dynamics. The OEF Institute training staff administered the Central American Training Program, which was an experiment to discover what resources are available in the field for regional training.

The Central American Workshop held annually since 1964 was suspended because of the outbreak of hostilities between Honduras and El Salvador. It had been planned to have it in Honduras during September with the theme of "The Citizen: His Politico-Social Function."

The Ford Foundation has funded an OEF project to develop financial support for civic organizations in Latin America. Mrs. Mildred Mersteau made three trips to Central America during the year to teach volunteer organizations how to raise funds to meet annual budgets.

Fifteen participants came from Central America to OEF training programs in the United States. Of these, seven attended the Multinational Seminar and eight attended the OEF Institute. A county breakdown follows:

	Multinational Seminar 1968	*Institute 1968*
Costa Rica	1	1
El Salvador	2	1
Guatemala	1	0
Honduras	1	2
Nicaragua	1	1
Panama	1	3

Celebration by the "Acercamiento Familiar" in Salcedo, Dominican Republic, on the occasion of collecting funds for a water cistern project.

Dominican Republic

One OEF Field Representative, Mrs. Una Cross, a community development specialist, devotes approximately half her time to the Dominican Republic. Her work consists of major programs such as regional and national seminars and of in-country follow-up work with OEF graduates. OEF's training goals in the Dominican Republic are to build leadership, responsibility, resourcefulness, confidence, and initiative in the area of civic education.

Four major programs were held during the past year. They were the Dominican Republic Training Program from June 8 to 26; the Second National Civic Seminar held at the request of and for women Governors of the 26 provinces of the Dominican Republic from October 23 to 28; a Regional Seminar for the Northern Provinces from February 14 to 19; and a Regional Seminar for the Southern and Eastern Provinces from February 21 to 26. The three Regional Seminars dealt with the responsibility of women in the development process. The Dominican Republic Training Program, which was held in Jarabacoa, was the second middle-level training program to be sponsored by OEF outside of the United States. Like the Central American Training Program, its curriculum was modeled after that of the OEF Institute.

Short courses were given by Mrs. Cross throughout the year in provincial communities to train individuals in group work and to provide them with the techniques necessary to work together within their communities. These courses took place in Bani, Dajabon, Santiago Rodríguez, El Seibo, and Azua.

Four women from the Dominican Republic participated in OEF's training programs in the United States. Of these, two attended the Multinational Seminar and two attended the OEF Institute.

South America

In response to requests for assistance from organizations in South America, Field Representatives counseled groups in seven of the nine Spanish-speaking countries of the Southern Hemisphere. The other two and Portuguese-speaking Brazil have received direct service from OEF Washington Headquarters.

Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru were included in the itineraries of two Field Representatives. Formal programs were staffed by OEF consultants and Field Representatives and included workshops and seminars in

Bolivia, Colombia, and Peru. Several Argentinian graduates of OEF training programs provided the impetus for cooperation in two workshops sponsored by the National University of Cuyo in Mendoza, Argentina. These workshops focused on the problem of integrating the university and the community. Each of these events was five to ten days in length and was attended by delegates and observers resident in the countries named.

Cooperative leadership training efforts between South American organizations and the OEF were the ACOVOL (*Agencia Coordinadora de Voluntarias*) Seminar in Bogotá, Colombia, in March; the Catavi Seminar sponsored by CONIF (*Confederación Nacional de Instituciones Femeninas*) for 32 wives of miners in the *altiplano* area of Bolivia; the Catholic University Seminar in Lima, Peru, which was organized by 20 Peruvian OEF graduates for 23 participants from various Departments and *barriadas* of the capital.

Thirteen participants came from South America to OEF training programs in the United States. Of these, five attended the Multinational Seminar and eight attended the OEF Institute. A country breakdown follows:

	Multinational Seminar 1968	*Institute 1968*
Argentina	1	3
Bolivia	1	1
Chile	1	0
Colombia	1	2
Peru	1	2

A lecture on health given by Olga Fonseca, a social worker, to the Catavi Seminar, Bolivia.

A participant in the Catavi Seminar, Bolivia, with her husband, a miner, her son, and Mrs. Una Cross, OEF Field Representative.

TRAINING IN ASIA

Plans to respond to requests already received were projected for such time as private funds can be raised and include sending a volunteer to Korea and Indonesia to begin the groundwork for a field services program for Asian women. In June of this year word reached the OEF that a League of Women Voters of Korea had been provisionally organized. The OEF will be represented by a volunteer at the annual congress of PERWARI, an Indonesian women's civic organization, in October, 1969.

TRAINING IN THE UNITED STATES

OEF Institute

The OEF Institute at Boston University, the most comprehensive of OEF's training programs in the United States, took place from September 2 through December 21. Eighteen women from ten Latin American countries participated in the Spanish-language curriculum which emphasized social change in Latin America, organizational skills and group dynamics. As in previous years, a human relations laboratory was held. Participants observed social welfare and community action programs in Massachusetts and visited the United Nations in New York. This year's Institute introduced a resident teaching counselor, who provided liaison for the participants by serving as escort-interpreter, and a written evaluation of the program by a psychologist who surveyed the participants before, during and after their course. The 1968 Institute had no U. S. participant.

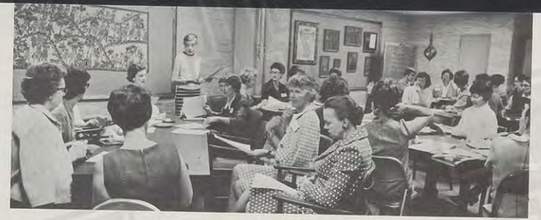
Multinational Seminar

Annually since 1961 the OEF has sponsored a Multinational Seminar for Latin American women leaders. This program is designed for women with backgrounds in volunteer and civic work. An intensive, five-week program, it has proved effective in terms of the activities of its returned graduates.

This past year the Seminar was attended by 14 women from 12 countries. After two weeks in Washington, the group divided into two sections for field visits to other cities in the United States for observation of local community organizations. Cities are selected on the basis of their size and the number and variety of available programs relating to the theme of the Seminar, "The Role of Women in Civic Development." Seminar participants visited New Haven, Minneapolis, Bloomington, and Chapel Hill, where local Leagues assisted in arranging their programs and provided home hospitality. The two sections reconvened in New York and then traveled to Puerto Rico, where they observed community organizations in a Spanish-speaking milieu.

Briefing Program

From June, 1968, to June, 1969, OEF shared experiences in



Mrs. John D. Briscoe, President, addresses participants in OEF's U.S. Women Abroad Seminar.

civic responsibilities with 182 leaders from 34 countries. Foreign guests have been programmed according to their individual interests which ranged from Congressional Committee hearings to voluntary agencies but which this election year had the common denominator of pre and post election procedures. LWV members escorted 86 foreign observers to the polls on election day. Leagues in ten cities cooperated with OEF in arranging a travel program for a young woman official of the League of Women Voters of Japan. OEF helped to arrange the itinerary of the Chief Elections Officer of Sierra Leone who was interested in registration drives, residence rules, vote counting procedures and finance at the municipal level. OEF's briefing service is available to any foreign visitor requesting it.

U.S. Women Abroad Seminars

As it is important for foreign leaders to learn about the United States, OEF considers it equally important for the American woman going overseas — as the wife of a businessman or foreign service officer or in a job of her own — to be an informed citizen in the country of her temporary assignment.

Today, with approximately 1.8 million U. S. citizens (including 250,000 family groups) living outside the boundaries of the United States, there is a need to orient these women to their adopted communities. This year the OEF established a service to fill that need by sponsoring two one-day seminars in which 53 women representing 20 organizations participated. Thirty-three of the participants had previously resided overseas and twenty were going for the first time.

These two "U. S. Women Abroad" Seminars provided an opportunity for businessmen's wives to exchange ideas with diplomats' wives, for missionaries to confer with foundation people, for Red Cross personnel to compare notes with Caritas representatives. Professionals such as Alison Raymond Lanier, Director of the Overseas Briefing Associates, and Louise Winfield, author of *Living Overseas*, assisted in conducting the Seminars which were held in Washington at the OEF Headquarters.

Publications

A popular OEF publication, *Handbook for Leaders*, was printed by the U.S. Information Service in Korean. The English edition has been requested by a variety of groups including "Mrs. Jaycees," St. Luke's Hospital, the Canadian Co-op Book Centre and many public schools, colleges, and libraries. The Boy Scouts of Chile were granted permission to reprint the *Handbook* in Spanish for the training of their leaders. The Spanish edition has been used in inner-city projects in the United States. Spanish-speaking communities here and overseas have also used a new OEF manual describing how to run a seminar. This workbook incorporates teaching techniques developed in OEF training programs in the United States and overseas. OEF maintains a liberal policy toward requests to reprint, adapt or translate its publications.

Intercambio

In 1964, with financial assistance from AID, the OEF began to publish a newsletter for Latins. This publication, *Intercambio*, now has a circulation of 2,000 and this year acquired a professional editor. Its readers include civic leaders; the academic community, professionals and volunteers, and OEF program graduates. Through *Intercambio* they learn of the activities of Latin American women's organizations, of the training courses sponsored either by a national women's civic organization or the OEF, and of the effectiveness of OEF training as reflected in the breadth and depth of the activities of its graduates. This past year *Intercambio* has become a real "interchange" with the increased use of articles written by Latin American women. A continuing feature reporting activities of all OEF Institute graduates will begin with the November, 1969, issue.

Mrs. William H. Wood, new Executive Director.

ADMINISTRATION

An increase in program and clerical staff strained an already

tight office space situation and, because of similar crowding in the League of Women Voters and Education Fund headquarters, the three affiliate organizations made plans to move jointly. The move took place on August 2 to the present address and certain basic services such as the switchboard, reception, inventory and distribution of publications were amalgamated.

In addition to the merging of some administrative services, the OEF information program was reorganized to include regular space in the *Voter*, the League's national membership publication. The *OEF Newsletter* was discontinued and a bi-monthly mimeographed flier describing the present activities of OEF trainees by country took its place. An informational brochure, *Some Facts About OEF*, was published under a grant from the Georgianna Fales Mitchell Memorial Fund.

A third area of increased administrative coordination between the OEF and the LWVUS was development. The OEF is coordinating its efforts on behalf of the 50th Anniversary Compaign with League representatives at the national, state, metro and local levels.

OEF continued to employ outstanding trainees as staff members. Srta. Marga Moura, a Brazilian, served on the OEF Institute staff and assisted in teaching organizational techniques at the Central American and Dominican Republic Training Programs. Another OEF graduate from Honduras served as Junior Field Representative in Central America.

In-service training for Board and staff was given at a three-day workshop at Mt. Vernon Junior College in Washington. Dr. Malcolm Knowles, a consultant in organizational theory and adult education from Boston University, led group discussions on organizational structure, finance, program development and research and evaluation. In-service training for Board and staff overseas is also OEF's policy. This year two Trustees and two Board members participated in field training programs. One OEF Field Representative has been attending a course for trainers in Panama given under the auspices of the National Training Laboratory.

The two major contributions of the Headquarters Liaison Office for Latin American Programs this year have been the editing of the Spanish *Seminario Taller* and the drafting in Spanish of an historical review of the work of the OEF in Latin America. A translation of this review has been undertaken, and the English edition will be incorporated in the Board/Staff Manual for the orientation of new personnel.

OVERSEAS EDUCATION FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENT
July 1, 1968 — June 30, 1969

INCOME

Designated Fund Balance from Prior Year	$ 12,755
Designated Contributions and Grants	70,934
Less: Designated Income Deferred to Future Period	(22,891)
Undesignated Contributions and Grants	80,699
Reimbursements for Programs and Services	231,150
Publications (gross)	1,073
Fiftieth Anniversary	50,000
Interest and Dividends	2,386
	$426,106

EXPENSE*

Latin American Program Headquarters Services	$ 69,331
South American Field Program	33,339
Central American Field Program	22,153
Dominican Republic Program	21,972
OEF Institute, Boston University	74,061
OEF Institute, Central America & Dominican Republic	39,634
Multinational Seminar, Washington, D. C.	12,342
Thailand Visitor Program	254
Ford Project	33,203
Headquarters Services: Publications & Briefings	14,064
Organizational Development	11,425
	$331,778

*Includes distribution by audit of indirect costs ($78,903) of administration, office overhead, and program coordination.

Audit by Councilor, Buchanan & Mitchell

SOURCES OF SUPPORT • July 1, 1968 — June 30, 1969

Corporations & Corporate Foundations

EBASCO Industries
*First National City Bank
W. R. Grace
Humble Company Charitable Trust
Levi Strauss Foundation, Inc.
Mobil Oil Corporation
Sears-Roebuck Foundation
Singer Sewing Machines
United Fruit

Foundations

The Ford Foundation
Interchange Foundation
The Ivy Fund
The Judson Fund
The Lasbury Foundation, Inc.
The Charles E. Merrill Trust
Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Inc.
The Scherman Foundation, Inc.
The Stetten Foundation
The Tennant Foundation
Blanche & Frank Wolf Foundation

*Gift in pesos

Individuals & Memorial Gifts

121 gifts received — $27,580.39

Program Contracts

Agency for International Development
Bureau for Latin America
Office of International Training
U.S./AID Mission of the Dominican Republic
Department of State
Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs

U.S./AID Missions in

Argentina
Bolivia
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Dominican Republic
El Salvador
Guatemala
Honduras
Nicaragua
Panama

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